

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

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A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

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Latest Arrivals.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama			
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—			
Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang . . .			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Dec. 26	Feb. 14	Feb. 20
Ningpo			
Poo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy .			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Jan. 10	" 28	" 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			March 3
SIAM—			
Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			Feb. 20
JAVA—			
Batavia			March 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Jan. 26	March 4	" 6
Penang			

The next home mail has been telegraphed as having reached Marseilles, and the letters will be delivered in London on Wednesday morning (March 13).

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delhi, from Southampton, April 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and two infants and European servant, and five second-class passengers. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. M. Reddie, Lieut.-Col. T. W. Lovell, C.B., R.E. Mr. C. G. Tatham, Dr. A. M'Kenna, R.N., Mr. W. C. Johnston, Dr. Freer, Mr. W. L. Nash, Capt. Burland, Mr. G. E. Wilkinson, and five second-class passengers. To Singapore: Mr. Odardo Beccari and one second-class passenger. To Penang: Mr. Lyster. To Ceylon: Lieut. and Mrs. J. J. C. Miller and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. H. V. Ellis, Mr. A. Featherstonhaugh, and one second-class passenger. To Calcutta: Capt. Watts, R.E., Mr. Balderson, Col. Bagot, Miss H. Taylor, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Morris, Mr. Banyard, Lieut. R. J. O'Brien, and four second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. F. B. Twynam, Miss Vincent, and three second-class passengers. To Suez: One second-class passenger. To Alexandria: Three second-class passengers and one child. From Marseilles, April 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. H. Pember, Mr. José Loureiro, Mr. G. F. Vignas, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. de Zarate. To Shanghai: Mr. F. M. Salow, Mr. Theotoky, To Singapore: Baron R. de Tayll. To Calcutta: Mr. G. Woodbridge, Mr. J. M. Clelland, Lieut. H. Collett, Ensign Cutbill, Mr. M. K. Angelo. To Madras: General Saville, Lieut. G. S. Neile. From Malta.—To Calcutta: Mr. and Miss Howard. Per P. and O. Co's steamer Pera, from Southampton, April 20.—To Hong Kong: Dr. A. B. Messer, R.N., Mrs. Carey and two sons. To Singapore: Mr. Frohlich, Mr. F. H. Gottlieb. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Cross, Miss Cumberland, Mr. J. L. Dewar, Mr. C. B. Culpepper. From Marseilles, April 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Reynal. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Rose.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

No later intelligence of any kind from this quarter has been brought by the French mail.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of the 26th December arrived in the river on the 14th February. Dates hence are to the 25th February. A Peking Gazette of the 2nd February confirmed Ting Jih-ch'ang in the Tao-tai-ship of Shanghai. There seems, therefore, every reason to suppose that the rumour of his disgrace was

started by some person or persons anxious to diminish his popularity with foreigners.

Assistant-Commissary-General Eichbaum has received orders to leave for England by the mail of March 15th, and will be succeeded in the post of Military Accountant by Assistant-Commissary-General Murray. The latter officer will proceed to Hong Kong, as soon as he is relieved by Deputy-Assistant-Commissary-General Barlie, who left for Yokohama on the 16th February. The 2nd Belooch Regiment is under orders to leave Shanghai by the end of the month, if possible.

It is expected that Rear-Admiral Sir Augustus Kuper, K.C.B., will leave Nagasaki in H.M.S. *Euryalus* for this port, on the 22nd Feb. The *Adventure* is expected daily from Hong Kong, and will probably take the Beloochees to Bombay.

On Thursday, the 16th February, as the steam barge *Spunkie* was proceeding down the river, her boiler bursted, and Mr. Smeaton, late engineer of the steamer *Fei-ma* and a Chinese stoker, were killed on the spot. Mr. Nicolson, of the firm of Nicolson and Boyd, who was on board at the time the accident occurred, was also severely hurt, and has since died from the effects of the injuries which he sustained. Little damage appears, however, to have been done to the vessel by the explosion.

The following notice by native silkmen appears in the *Daily News*:—"During the long time that Chinamen have been transacting business with foreigners, it has never, until lately, happened that any 'cut' silk has been found in silk bales; whereas now some complaints have lately been made on this head, and silk brokers have been required to pay for damages arising therefrom. The silk brokers have now agreed together that they will not be responsible for any such claims, unless the silk so damaged is returned to them, and in this case only they are ready to make good any claim for damage."

In the case of Messrs. Hogg Brothers *versus* the China Fire Insurance Company, the Consular Court gave judgment on the 14th Feb. in favour of the defendants. In this action Messrs. Hogg Bros. and Co. sued the China Fire Insurance Company for 30,000 tls., insured on goods described in the policy as "their own in trust or on commission," and the defendants resisted the claim on the grounds that Messrs. Hogg Bros. were not interested in the goods in question, and that the loss had been fraudulently stated. The plaintiffs explained at the opening of the proceedings that their interest was not strictly that which was stated in their declaration; that they really sued for the purpose of protecting Ping-ke, the Chinese merchant to whom the goods insured belonged; and that entertaining themselves the same conviction, they had led Ping-ke to believe that the said goods were covered. Further, that as the fact of Ping-ke being the real owner of the goods was known to the defendants at the time the policy was effected, they, Messrs. Hogg Bros., claimed a right to sue upon the policy which stood in their name, and the general claim on the part of Ping-ke included a particular claim on their own account of 7,570 tls. The defendants denied all knowledge of the goods being Ping-ke's, and resisted the claim because the plaintiffs had laid the ownership of the goods entirely on Ping-ke, whom they (the company) had never insured, and the defendants declared that they had never received any intimation from Messrs. Hogg Bros. that the latter themselves possessed the particular insurable interest above stated.

The Court were of opinion that no engagement was ever made by the Insurance Company with Ping-ke, either direct or through Messrs. Hogg Bros. as his agents; and in respect of the alleged fraudulent statement of loss, the Court and the Assessors also held that the plea was completely sustained:—

It has been as clearly proved by the plaintiff's witnesses as by those for the defence, that a shorter period than half an hour elapsed from the time that the godown keeper, being himself in bed in the godown, first discovered signs of fire until the roof fell in and showed that the contents of the building were then limited to two burning masses of loose cotton, some packages of tobacco, and a pile of coffin-wood. When extinguished these heaps showed not a trace of the cotton having been previously packed in bales, as the plaintiff's witnesses declared was the case, with the trifling exception of 500 or 600 cattie. The loss is stated by Ping-ke at 703 bales of cotton, 518 bales of tobacco, and a few minor articles. If this statement were correct a very large proportion of this mass of material, although by no means readily consumable, must have been annihilated between the time of the breaking out of the fire and falling in of the roof, the cotton must have been thrown out of its form in bales into two loose heaps and every vestige of its former packed condition been obliterated. To the mind of the Court and assessors such a result would be physically impossible, and they are therefore satisfied that the godown, at the time of the occurrence of the fire, did not contain the quantity of goods stated in the claim.

At a meeting of the Branch Royal Asiatic Society, held on the 10th February, the following gentlemen were balloted for and duly elected members of the society:—Messrs. E. Milsom, H. S. Bidwell, and J. Newberry. The following gentlemen were then proposed:—Proposed by Mr. Kingsmill, seconded by Mr. Brown, B. Barclay Esq., M.D. Proposed by Sir Harry Parkes, seconded by Dr. Henderson, G. Tyson, Esq., and H. G. Hollingworth, Esq. (Kiukiang).

The President read a letter which he had received from C. T. Jones, Esq., resigning his office as local secretary, on the plea that the distance at which he resides from the settlement prevents his performing effectively the duties attached to that post. Mr. Brown was elected to the vacant office.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were then read, and the routine business having been closed, the first paper for the evening, entitled "Northern Chinese Sugar-cane (Sorghum) and Its Uses," was read by Dr. Collins. The following is an abstract:—

After giving a short history of the introduction of the ordinary Chinese Sugar-cane (*Saccharatum officinarum*) among Western nations, it was stated that for some unaccountable reason, not only the Chinese but other nations have not, until recently, duly appreciated the Sorgho-cane of the North. In France and the United States the plant has been successfully cultivated during the last ten years, and is now very highly prized. The following were the points discussed in the paper:—1st, the *Botany*, 2nd, the *History*, 3rd, the *Culture*, and lastly, the *Uses* of Sorgho.

The following, from a work on *The Trees, Plants, and Flowers of China*, is the nearest approach to a Chinese botanical and historical notice of the plant by native writers, and this passage evidently refers to another species of Sorghum called *Kauliang*, though some of the characteristics of Sorgho (*Loo'tso*) are mentioned; viz:—black seed and saccharine juice. "*T'Su-h-soo*: This plant has received several names, all referable to the district where it was first produced. The seed was brought from the Province of Sze-chuen, whose ancient name was *Se T'sok*. The names by which the plant has been called are *Kauliang*, *T'sok-t'sack*, *Loo'tsee*, *Loo'tso*, *Moltsih*, and *Tih-liang*. The seed should be planted in good dry soil, early in the season—say April, if you would reap a good crop of seed. It ripens in autumn. The stalks are large and more than ten feet high—in leaves and general appearance resembling reeds, though the stalks are not hollow. The top resembles a broom, and is thickly covered with little red or black seeds, resembling kernels of pepper. This kernel is hard, and the heart of it is of a yellowish colour. When the plant is ripe the top is first taken off. The stalks are then gathered, bound in bundles, and placed in shoes to dry. There are two species of seed. The first is glutinous; and with a kind of rice is used in manufacturing alcoholic drinks—also made into cakes. The other seed is not glutinous. It makes good gruel, cakes, &c., and is useful to feed cattle. The stalks are manufactured into matting, &c., and the tops into brooms. The hulls of the seeds contain a red matter used in colouring red wines. The heart of the stalk is sweet, heating, slightly glutinous, and useful as a medicine in cases of diarrhoea."

The latest authorities place the plant of which we speak, some under the genus *Andropogon*, and others under that of *Sorghum*; indeed, the difference is so slight as to warrant their union in one. In regard to the various species of Sorghum grown in China (the names of some being given in the passage translated), there is not much doubt that they are identically the same plant, the differences between them being due to the long cultivation which the plant has undergone in different latitudes, soils, and other controlling circumstances, just as some of the grasses have sported into numerous varieties.

The leading differences besides appearance, between *Sorgho* and the ordinary Sugar-cane of middle and southern China, were stated to be these. The Sorgho is an annual plant, springing from and bearing seed, the cane is propagated annually, or every few years from cuttings, but yields no seed. The latter is seldom successfully grown above 25° or 30° N. Lat., or where the mean temperature is less than 65° or 68° Far., while Sorgho flourishes above 40° N. Lat. Indeed, wherever Indian corn will grow, it succeeds well, and ripens in much less time than ordinary cane. A lengthy description of the Sorgho was given, from the time it first appears above the ground until it matures—a towering plant from twelve to eighteen feet high.

The history of the introduction of Sorgho among Western nations was given as follows:—In 1851 Count de Montigny, at that time French Consul at Shanghai, forwarded, at the request of his Government, to the Geographical Society of Paris, a collection of such plants, seeds, and cuttings, found in this part of China as he thought might grow in Europe. Among this collection was a package of Sorgho seeds. These seeds were planted, and from them have sprung all the subsequent crops of Europe and America. The plant was introduced into the United States in 1854. Since that time, for various reasons, the area of Sorgho cultivation in the United States has steadily increased, until now it has become one of the great crops of the country. The same is true, to a limited extent, in France and Algiers, but these countries cultivate the plant, in the main, for different purposes, chiefly for alcohol, while in America it is raised for seed, forage, and for the manufacture of sugar, syrup, alcohol, vinegar and beer.

It must be confessed, however, that in one important particular Sorgho has somewhat disappointed public expectation in America, in that sugar is, with difficulty, manufactured from its juice, owing to a gummy principle which it contains. Still a large quantity of sugar is manufactured. The single State of Iowa, for instance (between 40 deg. and 45 deg. N. lat.), cultivated, in 1853, 36,667 acres of cane, which yielded 21,467 lbs. of sugar, 3,012,396 gals. of syrup, besides forage, alcohol, seed and vinegar.

It was for the purpose of observing the Chinese method of cultivating Sorgho, and especially their processes of manufacturing sugar from its juice, that Mr. C. came to China; for it is the impression in France and America that the Chinese are thoroughly acquainted with all plants indigenous to their country; and that the chief difficulty in obtaining sugar from the juice of the Sorgho was owing, either to some defect in foreign cultivation, in the mode of treating the juice, or in not possessing that species of Sorghum which yields the largest amount of crystallisable juice.

Strange as it may appear, there is nothing in the agricultural works or actual present practice of the Chinese to prove that they cultivate Sorgho (*Loo'tso*) for any manufacturing purposes whatsoever, but chiefly for chewing and sucking the stalks.

The plant, in this province, is cultivated chiefly on the island of Dzong-ming in the Yangtze, just opposite Wusung; and from thence the Shanghai market is supplied. A sketch of the island was given, and the Chinese method of tillage. From all Mr. C. has read and seen, both here and in America, he is well satisfied that foreigners have nothing to learn from, but much to impart to the Chinese, in respect to Sorgho.

In regard to the cultivation of Sorgho for extracting sugar, it has been found that it may be successfully grown upon all lands where a fair crop of Indian corn can be cultivated. This simple statement covers the whole question of latitude and soils; and shows what an immense advantage Sorgho possesses over ordinary sugar-cane in respect to temperature, flourishing as it does in torrid and temperate zones alike. Mr. C. gave then a description of the soils, manures, and tillage best adapted to Sorgho. The Chinese and foreign methods of tillage, however, do not greatly differ, though the latter is probably superior. The uses of Sorgho were stated, and among them are the following. An acre of ground produces about 22,000 stalks, yielding from three to nine tons of comparatively dry forage, besides seed to the amount of from 25 to 40 bushels, weighing 36 lbs. to the bushel, and equal to oats or barley in nutrition. The hulls of the seeds yield a very beautiful purple tint used in colouring wines and silks. If the plant is cultivated for other purposes, an acre yields about 1,700 gallons of juice, giving from 10 to 13 per cent. of saccharine matter in the form of sugar or syrup, or about 6 per cent. of absolute alcohol. The yield of vinegar and beer is about the amount of juice consumed. Mr. C. explained the methods of manufacturing sugar, syrup, alcohol, ether, vinegar, beer and meal from Sorgho, and exhibited specimens of these articles made by himself at Shanghai last fall. In conclusion, he stated that in the cultivation of Sorgho in China there opens up a new and profitable field of enterprise, because the plant yields cheaply an abundance of saccharine matter, used in manufacturing some of the chief articles of modern consumption.

The second paper for the evening, on "The Geology of the Great Plain," by Dr. Lamprey, 67th Regiment, was then read. Lack of space prevents us from enlarging upon the topics introduced. Several interesting specimens were laid before the meeting, of shells, &c., found in different places, and illustrative of the subject. A vote of thanks having been passed to Dr. Collins and Dr. Lamprey, the proceedings terminated.

NINGPO.

On the night of the 5th February, a Ningpo boat from Wanchew, while lying in the river (Ningpo) was boarded by six Europeans with masks on, who overpowered the crew, robbed the boat of \$213 in money, and the clothes that were of any use belonging to the crew. These scoundrels were armed with swords and revolvers, and threatened to kill the first that made any noise. After they had got all they could, they cut adrift the boat's sampan, and shoved themselves off.

The lighthouses are drawing fast towards completion, and will be lit for the first time about the end of the current or beginning of next month (March). At present, after leaving the Light Ship, nothing is seen ahead in the light way from Shanghai to Ningpo (says the *Friend of China*), till a glimpse is caught of an oyster-shell lantern over an upper room of the gateway to the dilapidated citadel on the hill at Chinhae; a light of use only in steering to within a couple of miles or so of the entrance to the river, and which it is proposed to do without as soon as the other lights are fairly in operation.

The new lighthouses comprise, one on the island of Tse-lee,

about five miles from the river entrance, and another on the islet of Pas-yeu, a quarter of a mile or so from Cho-po-san (Citadel hill). The Tse-lee lighthouse, complete in all but glazing, is an octagonal building about twenty-five feet high, on a three feet thick brick foundation, with walls two and a-half feet thick on the base, reduced to two feet half the way up, and tapering from a diameter inside of eleven feet on lower story to six feet for the floor of the lantern. This Tse-lee or outer luminary, is 185 feet above the water, and a clear bright light will be visible in ordinary weather at a distance of eight miles or so. The greatest benefit derivable from this light will be by navigators who approach Ningpo river through the Kintang Channel—say by sailing ships, of which as many as thirty got ashore outside Ningpo during the last year only.

The inner light on Pas-yeu will be a dark red, a hundred and fifty feet above water, and particularly useful to steamers in helping them to strike the centre of the channel on either side of the islet. Until Chinese keepers are sufficiently acquainted with the duty required of them, common oil lamps, eight of them to each lighthouse, in plated copper reflectors, will be used, sliding on revolving carriages, twenty-four inches by twenty-four, and fed from the tops. Substantial cottages are built in the vicinity of each lighthouse for the accommodation of the keepers (one European and two Chinese to each); and on Tse-lee there is to be a flag-staff to warn ships when approaching dangers unwittingly, a gun for foggy day alarms, &c.

The lighthouses, however, are not the only useful improvements. Buoys are to be laid as follows:—One on Sesostriis Rock near Pas-yeu island—where there is only twelve feet of water at low spring tides; one on Tiger's Tail; one on the Blonde Rock, and one on Alligator Point;—the cost of the whole of these arrangements being somewhat considerable when viewed as a contribution in progress by Chinese Mandarins.

HONAN.

The Mahometan rebels in Honan are pursuing their successes, and have now captured the city of Lo-yang-hsien, where they have strongly entrenched themselves. The course of this rebellious movement is marked by desolation and misery inflicted on the peaceful inhabitants, such as even the Taipings never approached in their wildest forays. The country around Lo-yang has been turned into a wilderness, and the villages have been without exception burned to the ground.

FOOCHOW.

The British steamer *Undine* reports having left Foochow on the 12th of February, arrived at Amoy on the 13th, arrived in Swatow same day, left on the 14th at three P.M., and arrived at Hong Kong on the 15th. The steamers *Maria*, *Prince Kung*, *Waratah*, and H.M.'s gunboat *Bustard*, were in Foochow; H.M.S. *Pelorus*, and gunboats *Bustard*, *Janus*, and *Flamer*. H.M.'s gunboat *Haughty* arrived in Swatow on the 13th. An expedition was sent out from H.M.'s vessels in Amoy to a piratical village some distance up the river. No news, however, of what they had effected had reached Amoy before the departure of the *Undine*.

HONG KONG.

Dates are to the 25th February. The London mails of the 10th January arrived out on the 23rd February. The British steamer *Reiwer* was chartered to carry the homeward mails by the Messageries Impériales in lieu of the *Labourdonnais*, which was to await at Hong Kong the arrival of the next French mail. H.M.S. *Tamar* was to leave for the Mauritius, Natal, and the Cape, on the 28th February.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 23rd February, all the members present, except the Surveyor-General and the Colonial Treasurer. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and approved, the Governor intimated the matters to be considered were:—The third reading of an ordinance to amend the laws relating to offences against the person, &c.; the introduction of an ordinance for the incorporation, registration, and winding-up of joint-stock trading companies; and the revival of the jury list for the present year. Beginning with the Limited Liability Act, as the second ordinance is sometimes called, his Excellency said that it was precisely the same ordinance which had already been submitted to the Council and rejected, but he believed that its rejection arose from the want of a due understanding as to the views of the Chamber of Commerce on the matter. A second address from the Chamber had been sent in, and there was no longer any room for misunderstanding. A petition from the foreign community in Hong Kong, signed by 354 names, was also in his Excellency's

hands, both of which documents were read. After some remarks on matters of form, the second reading of the ordinance was carried by seven to two, the minority being the Hon. Mr. Whittall and the Colonial Treasurer (who arrived in time to vote). Mr. Whittall protested against the passing of the measure, for reasons to be furnished in the course of seven days; and a committee, consisting of the Hon. Mr. Chomley, the Hon. Mr. Murray, the Attorney-General, Judge Ball, and the Auditor-General, were appointed to report upon the ordinance before it should come on for a final reading. The Council then proceeded to revise the Jury List.

The Governor had been pleased to make the following appointments in the Hong Kong Volunteers:—

Artillery Company: First Lieutenant H. Cohen to be Captain, vice Myburgh, resigned; Second Lieutenant W. J. Henderson to be First Lieutenant, vice Cohen; F. I. Hazeland, Quarter-Master Sergeant, to be Second Lieutenant.

Rifle Company: T. G. Linstead, Colour-Sergeant, to be Lieutenant, vice Davidson retired.

In the Vice-Admiralty Court on the 15th, judgment was delivered in "*the Island Queen v. the Nepaul*." The judge said that he thought the amount tendered by the impugnants (the P. and O. Company), namely £3,000, and which amount was paid by them into the Court, was amply sufficient to pay the promovents for any salvage services they rendered to the *Nepaul*. Judgment would be for the promovents (the *Island Queen*) for the amount so tendered, they paying all costs incurred subsequent to the time the tender was made to them.

At the Criminal Sessions, James Ellis, Inspector of Markets, was charged with extorting certain legs of mutton, turkeys, cases of brandy, &c., from the lessee of the Eastern Slaughterhouse. Mr. Pollard assisted the Attorney-General for the prosecution, and Mr. Kingsmill appeared for the defendant. The trial lasted into the second day, Mr. Kingsmill addressing the Jury and calling Mr. May, Captain Quin, and Mr. Jarman, who gave the defendant an excellent character for the time he had served in the Police force (over ten years). The defendant has been Inspector of Markets for six years, and during that time no complaint had ever been made by any of the market people. The Chief Justice summed up, and the Jury found the prisoner Not Guilty by six to one.

The trial of the men accused in the bank robbery case was remanded to Wednesday, March 1, as important witnesses for the prosecution were not yet forthcoming. Some discussion took place as to the accused being admitted to bail; which was refused, owing to the important nature of the case. If the witnesses arrived in the interval, the case would be resumed before the time mentioned.

The P. and O. Company have just completed a new landing wharf in front of their offices. It is made of the best timber, and will be found both commodious and economical by the company and the public. The wharf does not extend very far from the quay, and at the lowest neap tides gives a depth of twenty-three feet. The *Cadi* was laid alongside of the new wharf, and the erection seems in every sense suitable for the purpose contemplated.

The *Daily Press* says—Messrs. Russell and Co. are erecting a wharf of the same description, opposite Wohang's, for the convenience of their Canton steamers. At least two wharves are either erected, or are being erected, at Wanchai, and we believe that others will spring up. The advantages to the colony in a commercial point of view from a system of deep water wharfage are too palpable and too well understood to require enlarging upon. Economy in the landing charges, the saving from pilferage and waste, and the despatch which can be given to ships, are the items on which the advantages will tell. Instead of rice being subject to a charge of eight cents per picul for landing, one or at most two cents would cover it. Instead of the pilferage and waste amounting to three per cent., they will hardly amount to one per cent.; and instead of a ship being a fortnight in discharging, four days will be sufficient. In delivering cargo from the godown the same advantages are multiplied.

Her Majesty's gunboat *Opossum*, which left for the Paracello Shoal on the 5th February to receive the crew of the British barque *Fearnot*, which was lost upon the shoal on 12th Jan., has returned. She reports that she arrived at the Paracelles on the 8th, found six Chinese upon Lincoln Island who were part of the barque's crew. They stated that a Hainan junk had arrived three days previous and taken the treasure, cou-

sisting of about \$5,000, off the wreck; that when the six Europeans remaining on the island saw them they took the ship's gig, and with only three gallons of water and very little provisions got clear away from the place. The gunboat crew examined Woody Island, Rocky Island, and the Amphitrite group of islands, these being to leeward of the wreck, but gained no tidings of the men; several fishing junks were interrogated, but said they knew nothing of them. Took some sails, &c., off the wreck, and left for Hong Kong on the 9th Feb. On Saturday, the 11th, when within sixty miles of Hong Kong encountered a heavy gale, which drove them back and they anchored under Namoa Island until the 14th, when the weather moderated, and they were enabled to come on to Hong Kong. [It will be recollected that the last number of the *London and China Telegraph* reported the safe arrival of the chief officer and five seamen of the *Fearnot* at Singapore, they having been picked up by the *Cedars*, bound to Rangoon. The steamer *Plymouth Rock*, while returning from Canton on the night of the 17th Feb., in order to take her place against the *Kinshan* on the following morning, ran into a junk at the entrance to the Throat Gates, sinking her almost immediately. Five men and about \$15,000 worth of property were lost.

The Sailors' Home is progressing more favourably than the projectors ever dreamt of. There have been about one hundred inmates in it at one and the same time. Many hands having been shipped, the number at present is reduced to about seventy, subject to daily fluctuations. The inmates are happy and contented, and the concern is evidently a thriving one. There is a great want of accommodation for officers, engineers, and seafaring men of the better class (remarks the *Evening Mail*). It says a great deal for the accommodation and the fare of the establishment, that a slight sprinkling of these should take advantage of its operation, and mingle with the sailors, in preference to resorting to the existing boarding-houses, which have hitherto been maintained by their reception. Still such a state of things is unseemly, and should be put a stop to with all convenient speed. We presume it is not intended to give up the whole of the building constructed for the accommodation of the Indian sailors, to the superintendent; and we should say that the mess-room for officers might be made in that building. Furthermore, we should imagine that one of the dormitories (of course we mean in the large building) might be kept select for officers, until the other dormitories should be full and additional bedding be required—and even then a space might be screened off. We believe that the accounts exhibit a fair surplus on the first month's transactions, and that the fear lest the Home should not pay its expenses is a lost one.

The 16th of February was the first day of the races, which were continued on the 18th and 19th. Among the more important we may notice, the Canton Cup, value 100 guineas,—for Arabs only. Weight 10st. One mile and a half.—1, Forrester; 2, Early Purl (a fair second); 3, Colonist (nowhere).

The Hong Kong Club Cup, for all horses. One mile and a half. 1, Exeter; 2, North Pole.

The Selling Stakes, value \$500, for all horses that have never won any race out of China. One mile and a half. 1, Pathfinder; 2, Magnet (broke down).

The German Cup, presented by the German community, value 100 guineas, for colonial horses only. One mile and a half. 1, Warrior (carried 3 lbs. extra); 2, Scamp; 3, Pathfinder (carried 2 lbs. extra).

The second day's racing included the Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, for all horses. To be won two years consecutively by a horse or horses the *bona fide* property of the same owner. Two miles. 1, Haddington (led all the way); 2, Exeter; 3, Millionaire.

The St. Leger Cup, presented by a subscriber, for Arabs only, 10st. The winner of the Canton Cup excluded. One mile and a half. 1, Early Purl; 2, Hadji.

The Parsee Cup, value \$250, presented by the Parsee community, for all horses, English excepted. 1, Warrior; 2, Pathfinder; 3, Scamp.

After the race, however, an objection was lodged against Warrior by the owner of Scamp, on account of an alleged foul. In the discussion which followed, far too much warmth was exhibited, on the part of one of the stewards, which led to several severe remarks being made. The objection was afterwards allowed, and the race now stands as under:—1, Pathfinder; 2, Scamp; 3, Warrior.

The third and last day included the Fakei Cup, value \$700, presented by the American community of Canton and Hong Kong, for all horses; one mile. 1, Anecdote; 2, Sir William; 3, Loafer.

The Fuhchau Cup, value 280 guineas, presented by the Fuhchau community, for all horses, English excepted; from the Black Rock, twice round and in. 1, Exeter; 2, Pathfinder; 3, Warrior.

The Shanghai Cup, value 100 guineas, presented by the Shanghai community; for all horses; two miles. 1, Sir William; 2, Traveller.

The Stewards' Plate, value \$500; for all horses; one mile and a half. 1, Sir William; 2, Exeter; 3, Anecdote. The best race of the meeting; won by a neck.

CANTON.

One or two numbers of a weekly newspaper, published in Canton, in the Chinese language only, and edited by one of the foreign missionaries there, have been sent to us. The copy last received contains two advertisements and five articles or paragraphs on different subjects. The advertisements announce (1) Dr. Hobson's Medical Work, in five volumes (in Chinese), for sale; and (2) the Medical Missionary Society's Hospital, open for the dispensing of medical advice and assistance, free of charge. The subjects touched upon in the same number of the paper are (1) a notice of the Government schools in Hong Kong, their number, and the manner in which they are conducted; (2) notice of a misdemeanor in a village in the district of Koiu; (3) the present condition of the Taiping rebellion; (4) notice of the bank robbery in Hong Kong; (5) an article on the revolutions of the earth. The undertaking is as yet in its infancy, and its prospects cannot be stated with certainty; but the small price (two cash) at present charged for each copy, must, we should think, ensure a large sale for "The Chinese and Foreign Weekly Newspaper," as it is called. So far as we know, the experiment of starting such a newspaper in Canton is new. The amount of matter given for the money seems very large; and should the immense native population of Canton take a fancy to the new journal—should ten thousand copies be sold every week—the undertaking would more than pay itself. In that case, it would most likely be enlarged and become a useful advertising medium, in which event, we have been told, the price might easily enough be reduced to one cash per copy.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 6th March. The London mail of the 26th January arrived out on the 4th March. The *Thunder* steamer arrived from Calcutta on the 3rd March, having on board his Royal Highness the Duke de Brabant, travelling under the title of the Count de Tervueren. The Hon. E. P. Levinge was also a passenger in her. The United States steam frigate *Iroquois* was at Galle when the *Ottawa*, the steamer that brought the London mails, left there. It was said she was coming on to Singapore, in search of the Confederate cruiser *Shenandoah*—which, as we know in England, was then in Australian waters.

The deaths from cholera were diminishing at Singapore.

The *Jubilant*, Bremen barque, Vochler, master, bound from Rangoon to Hong Kong with a cargo of rice, had been wrecked on Batu Mandi, east of the Pedra Branca lighthouse. The wreck had been sold by auction for the sum of eighty-one dollars.

There was a rumour that a local joint-stock company was about to be started, to undertake general marine insurance business. It is urged that the amount of insurance effected at Singapore in a year is enormous, and that a local inspection and direction would give a company many advantages over other foreign offices.

The Governor has been pleased to accept the resignation by Mr. G. T. Wright of the office of Deputy Shipping Master and Assistant Master Attendant, Singapore, from the 3rd of Feb., 1864, the date of his departure from the settlement on leave of absence; and to appoint Mr. J. Anderson to those offices. Mr. D. C. Presgrave, J. P., has been appointed Deputy Coroner for Prince of Wales' Island.

Mr. Joaquim d'Ameida writes to the *Straits Times* in reference to the firm of Jose d'Almeida and Sons:—"We obtained our personal discharge from the Insolvent Court at the hearing on the 23rd of February, and there was no opposition made. His Honour the Recorder was pleased to com-

pliment us on its being very creditable that there was no omission made."

A coroner's inquest was held on the 22nd February, on the body of a European named Mark Donovan, steward of the P. and O. Company's steamer *Orissa*. Deceased came by his death by accidentally falling over the wharf at New Harbour, while attempting, it is supposed, to save a native seaman who had also fallen into the water. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTH.

PURVIS.—On the 1st March, at Glassmount, Singapore, the wife of John M. Purvis, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

COPPER TUCKELL.—On the 1st Feb., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., William M. Copper, of H.B.M. Consular Service in China, to Mary Louisa, daughter of Colonel S. R. Tuckell, late Bengal Staff Corps.

DEATHS.

CUMMINGS.—On the 1st Feb., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward Cummings, apprentice going to the ship *Sea Nymph*.

JEREMIAH.—On the 1st Feb., at Singapore, Anthony Jeremiah, aged 34 years, 8 months, and 22 days.

NICOLSON.—On the 1st Feb., at Shanghai, from injuries received by the explosion of the steamer *Spartan*, Mr. Alexander Morrison Nicolson, aged 35 years, of Messrs. Nicolson and Boyd, Engineers. Deceased was a native of Stornoway, Island of Lewis, County of Ross, Scotland.

NOTT.—On the 15th Feb., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Samuel Nott, corporal 99th Regt., aged 27 years, of consumption.

PARKES.—On the 26th Feb., at Mr. P. R. Lowry's residence, in Hyam-street, Singapore, after a few hours' illness, Mr. William Parkes, late of Penang.

ROBB.—On the 23rd Feb., at Marine Villa, Singapore, Anne, the wife of Daniel Robb, Esq., shipbuilder.

SHORT.—On the 13th Feb., in Singapore Harbour, Elizabeth Short, wife of Sergeant-Major Short, H.M.'s 99th Regt., on her voyage to England.

WILLIAMS.—On the 15th Feb., at Shanghai, George Bond Williams, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., aged 29 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Feb. 11, Eunice Nicholas; 14, Norwood. From Liverpool: 15, Gassamar. From Cardiff: 14, Sanspareil. From New York: 9, Haversham; 19, Oliver Courts.

At HONG KONG.—From Liverpool: Feb. 16, Abona; 22, Albertine.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Feb. 28, Eena and Gloucester. From Liverpool: 28, Mandarin. From New York: March 2, Tesso (str).

DEPARTURE.

From SHANGHAI.—For Montreal: Feb. 9, Shelbourne.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

A circular issued on Saturday (the 8th) notified suspension of payments by Messrs. Charles Joyce and Co. (formerly Joyce, Thurnburn, and Co.), of 61, Moorgate-street, the old and respectable firm engaged in the Indian and Egyptian trade. The house must have stopped last Wednesday but for the arrival of remittances from Alexandria; the relief, however, was but temporary. Losses in cotton, especially Egyptian, have been so enormous that, notwithstanding the desire of friends to assist the firm if possible, it appeared hopeless to attempt the task. This may reasonably be imagined, when it is stated that the debts and liabilities represent £1,100,000, and that these are composed of direct engagements £600,000, and of indirect, £500,000, the principal portion of which, it is believed, will be covered. There is a firm at Alexandria interested, and an agency at Ceylon. The liquidation will naturally depend upon the realisation of cotton and other produce, cargoes of which are now coming forward. At present, from the position of the London and Liverpool markets, the prospects for creditors are anything but favourable.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—April 8, at Deal, from Shanghai, Diligencia; 5, at Cuxhaven, from Foo-chow-Chow, Persia; 6, at Bordeaux, from Singapore, Birman; 6, off Plymouth, from Java, Sophie; 8, Clyde, from Singapore, Obex; 6, off Land's End, from Ceylon, Argali.

SPOKEN.—Patna, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 4, 52 N., 8 W.; H.M.S. Falcon, bound to Singapore, off Cape Rachado.

DEPARTURES.—April 7, from Shields, for Shanghai, Hotspur; 8, from London, for Newcastle and Batavia, Solo.

CHINESE CURIOSITIES AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A valuable and most interesting collection of Chinese gems, relics, State emblems, and works of art has just been opened at Norwood, in a special enclosure of its own, in the French Court of the Crystal Palace. As might be anticipated, the great bulk of the very rare and often most costly articles shown here came originally from the Emperor's Summer Palace of Yuen-ming-Yuen, near Peking—a palace which was given up to plunder and entirely destroyed in retaliation for the monstrous treachery by which so many English and French men and officers were captured under a flag of truce and tortured to death. The fortunate owner of this collection is Captain Negroni, of the 102nd Regiment of the Line, who has succeeded in getting together one of the most curious, and probably one of the most valuable collections of the kind that has ever been seen in this country. In the rare old kinds of Chinese porcelain the collection is unusually rich. There are some splendid specimens of jade ornaments in the collection; among them a jewel stand, formerly used by the Empress, inlaid with rubies, pink coral, and lapis-lazuli, and an exquisite model of a junk, with rowers, interior furniture, and everything complete, carved out of a single mass of white jade. There are many smaller groups and large vases with covers, and a seal belonging to the Emperor, with an inscription on the back warning those who found

the treasure that death was the penalty of not returning it to the Emperor. In Oriental jaspers and agates, and real chalcedony, there are wonderful works in cameos, carved groups, and vases. The Chinese jewels are of rare beauty, and of considerable value. Among them are two jewel cases, one of mosaic work formed of sapphires, rubies, emeralds, and pearls; another of small pearls, diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds. Here, too, is a State ornament formerly worn by the Emperor, and composed entirely of precious stones; the Emperor's State waist buckle, formed of a large uncut sapphire. Among the gems proper there are some rare and extraordinary specimens, which would be of immense value if they were not all most seriously depreciated either by perforation, by bad cutting, or by being cut flat to make one good stone into several thin "rose" gems of the same size. Among others is an Oriental sapphire weighing 48 carats, a ruby weighing 24 carats, a pair of ruby ear-rings, worn by the Empress, weighing 16 carats each, an amethyst weighing 150 carats, a rose ruby which is said to weigh 500 carats, and a monster sapphire, said to be the largest in the world, and weighing 742 carats. In China of the rarest and most beautiful types the collection is as rich as in jewels and carvings, lacquer, and inlaid work. In what is called the European portion of the collection are some fine works which have been presented from Europe to various Emperors of China, and which now, by the strange vicissitudes of fortune, find their way back to this quarter of the world almost centuries after they were made. One of the most interesting of these is a box sent to China by Marie Antoinette, and which bears her cipher. It is one of the most complete and valuable of them all, and the automaton singing birds which surmount one portion of it may still be regarded at this day as models of mechanical excellence. Altogether, the whole collection is emphatically one of the best and most interesting of its kind that has ever been shown in England, and it is certain at Norwood to prove one of the most lasting attractions of this season.

CONSUL WINCHESTER'S DESPATCH.

(From the *London Gazette*.)

The following despatch, with its enclosures, has been received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Japan:—

"Yokohama, Jan. 13.

"My Lord,—It is with great satisfaction that I find it my duty to bring to your Lordship's notice two additional instances of the humane and hospitable treatment, by the Japanese authorities and people, of shipwrecked crews, and of pains taken by them to preserve or recover property or gear belonging to stranded vessels.

"In November last the British barque *Ashmore*, proceeding to Hakodadi, from this port, was wrecked at Benten Sama, or Low Island, in the Straits of Tsungaru; and Mr. Interpreter Enslie, who started from Hakodadi on the 27th of November, and was only able to reach the scene of the disaster several days later, refers in the highest terms to the kind attentions shown by the Prince of Nambu, who, immediately on hearing of the wreck, issued orders to render to the ship's company every possible assistance.

"Secondly, in December last, the British barque *Onward*, chartered to take the place of the *Ashmore*, was, on her voyage to Hakodadi, wrecked at Kashima, about 250 miles distant from Yokohama. The captain, his wife, two children, and crew were treated with the utmost kindness by the Hatamoto (squire of the village)—the property saved from the wreck, including all their clothes. A box of treasure (£5,000) was carefully guarded, and finally placed on board Her Majesty's steam despatch-boat *Coguette*, sent to their relief.

"It is also incumbent on me to point out the zealous and praiseworthy services of the gentlemen belonging to Her Majesty's Civil Service who proceeded to the assistance of these wrecks, and the risks to which the faithful performance of such duties exposes them. Mr. Enslie was seven days in reaching the *Ashmore*. Throughout this time he was in an open Japanese boat, exposed to the rigours of a commencing winter and the dangers of a stormy strait. Indeed, during his absence, the rumours of the boat being driven out to sea and cast away were so alarming and persistent that I deemed it right to ask Mr. Consul Vyse, who was here on unexpired leave, to return to his post on service in the *Osprey* which Sir Augustus Kuper was good enough on my representation to despatch to Hakodadi.

"In the case of the *Onward*, Mr. Satow, Student Interpreter of this Legation, proceeded in the *Coquette* to Cape Kona, and made his way on shore in the gig through a tempestuous surf, which they were only able to recross after their boat had been transported for four miles across a neck of sand to a more protected starting point.

"The procedure of the Japanese Government, in these cases, is so uniformly distinguished by genuine hospitality and kindness, and is in such marked contrast to the inhumanity and rapacity almost everywhere shown by the kindred race on the opposite coast of China, that I trust your lordship will hold me excused for occupying your lordship's time with details of events which are otherwise of ordinary interest.

"I have, &c.,

"CHARLES O. WINCHESTER.

"To the Right Hon. Earl Russell, K.G., &c."

"The following is the evidence of Capt. Jenkins, of the British barque *Ashmore*, wrecked off Cape Sarawasaki on the 24th of November:—

"Left Yokohama on Monday, the 15th of November, 1864. Strong winds, fine weather, and at last arrived on the evening of the 24th off Cape Sarawasaki. At eight o'clock, bearing south, distance seven miles, strong wind and thick weather; took in top-gallant sails, double reefed the top-sails, and about half-past nine a man sung out, "Breakers on the starboard bow!" I saw a passage between Low Island and the Cape; tried to steer the vessel between, and about five minutes after the vessel struck heavily. The yards were immediately backed in order to move the ship off, but could do nothing, the seas making a breach over her, which hove her stern right on to the rocks and took the rudder off. I ordered the carpenter to sound the pumps about half an hour after she struck and found five feet of water in the hold; got the hands turned to, and got some provisions on shore; took a couple of sails to make a tent. At 4 A.M. found the water up to the lower deck beams. All hands went on shore by ropes. At daylight went on board and tried to save some of our effects. The mate and four

hands got the whaleboat and tried to go to Hakodadi to report the wreck; I and the remainder of the crew stopped, trying to save all we could. Saved the treasure at great risk. At 8.30 the ship sank in 4½ fathoms water. On Friday afternoon the ship went to pieces. On Thursday morning, at 9.30, some Japanese came off bringing rice. Assistance from the Consulate arrived, but nothing could be done till Tuesday morning, on which day Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul came himself. We left for Hakodadi in junks the following morning.

"Dec. 18, 1864."

"JOHN JENKINS, Master."

"1, Ferdinand C. Kreeft, late master of the British barque *Onward*, of Melbourne, which was wrecked on the east coast of Nippon on the 29th of December, 1864, wish to express my thanks for the great kindness and protection received by myself, crew, and family from the Japanese authorities of Kasima, where the vessel was wrecked.

"During nine days, and until relieved by Her Majesty's steamer *Coguette*, every want and necessary was supplied to us.

"The magistrate or chief Yakonin of that locality was so civil and attentive as to personally escort us on board the *Coguette*, and further to render great assistance to Mrs. Kreeft and children, and also to the officers and crew of the *Coguette*'s gig, detained during two days by an impassable bar, and eventually had the boat and treasure carried over a distance of four miles to another part of the coast, to enable them to get off; the said head Yakonin himself seeing the last safely on board the *Coguette*.

"I have no hesitation in saying, from my experience, that the kind treatment and efficient assistance which I received from those Japanese authorities could not have been surpassed in any part of the world.

"F. C. KREEFT."

"Yokohama, January 11, 1865."

"Done before me, at Her British Majesty's Consulate, Kanagawa, this 11th of January, 1865.

"MARCUS FLOWERS, Acting Consul."

COTTON CULTIVATION IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

At the meeting of the Cotton Supply Association some Consular reports were received from the Foreign-office relative to the cultivation of Cotton, of which the following were from China and Japan:—

Report on the cultivation of cotton in the province of Chekiang, in China, of which Ningpo is the foreign shipping port, by Mr. CONSUL FITTICK.

Area of land planted with cotton in 1863, about 54,000 acres; and in 1864, about 106,000 acres. No foreign seed is used at present in the province. The amount of produce for 1863 was returned at 200,000 bales, and the estimated quantity for 1864 is 400,000 bales. The season for sowing is May, and the season for picking about the middle of September. It is difficult to say what prices would be remunerative under ordinary circumstances. The present price is about 9d. per lb., but is entirely attributable to the demand consequent on the stoppage of supplies from America; before that took place, and prior to the devastation of the country by the rebels, the average price was less than 5d. per lb.

The war in America has given an immense impetus to cotton cultivation in this province. Four years ago little or none was exported; in the present year, as stated, the export will amount to about 400,000 bales, or 63,840,000lb., and, so far as I am aware, the power of increase is regulated entirely by the quantity in demand. Other crops are, of course, made to give way for its cultivation, more especially rice, which the more remunerative price of cotton enables the agriculturist to give up producing, and buy from a foreign market. Thus three or four years ago the quantity of rice imported was insignificant, while last year it was valued at \$9,706,182. The cotton crop is made to alternate with wheat or barley, and beans. The mode of cultivation is this: about May the cotton seed is sown in the intervals of rows of wheat and beans, which in that month are full grown, and conversely in October the wheat and beans are planted in the intervals of the standing cotton rows. The seed is covered in when sown with a heavy iron mattock with four teeth. The growing cotton is manured with canal mud, vegetable ashes, human excrement, &c., but manure is not so universally applied as in the cultivation of rice. Previous to the foreign demand for cotton, the produce of this province found its way to the markets of Fuh-Kien. Although the distance from Kuan-hai-wei to Ningpo by land is only about thirty miles, owing to the water-way having to double the extremity of a range of hills, by that route by which all the cotton for exportation is brought, it has to traverse about sixty or seventy miles. Twelve miles of the water is along a canal which communicates with the tidal river Yung, by one of the rude sluices over which the boats are hauled by capstans. As the entrance to the sluice is narrow, the detention sometimes is very great, and the inconvenience and difficulties to be overcome here, and at another place about three miles further on, where the boats have to pass a narrow bridge, under which is an obstruction of rock, impassable at low water, are excessive, and the time wasted in transition from Kuan-hai-wei to Ningpo varies from a couple of days to four or five. These obstructions, it is believed, are easily removable, but the inhabitants are too indolent, inert, and indifferent to take any interest in improvements of this kind. The sluice capstans are worked by a band of peasants, with no responsible or influential management. No kind of order or system is observed in passing the boats, and the master of each has to make his own bargain, except when foreign or accidental influence somewhat expedites matters. The city of Kuan-hai-wei is about thirty miles this side of An-chang, and within two or three miles of the sea. It contains about 10,000 inhabitants. The cotton plains skirt the Hangchow Bay along the whole of its southern shore, and it is surmised the northern shore affords equal advantages for the cultivation of the cotton plant. Nearly all the upper plains of the province, in fact, are admirably adapted for this description of agriculture.—British Consulate, Ningpo, 29th December, 1864.

Report on the cultivation of cotton near the consular district of Kanagawa, in Japan, by Mr. CONSUL WINCHESTER.

No means exist for ascertaining the quantity of land under cotton

cultivation. It is stated by Japanese farmers and others that the high price of cotton during last year has stimulated production to about double the amount of former years in this immediate neighbourhood. No data exists for estimating the whole amount of the crop; but the figures below refer to the exports from this port:—July 1st, 1863, to September 30th, 1863, 11,094 bales, not pressed by machinery, so that the precise quantity cannot be ascertained. For the whole year 1863, the export from Yokohama was 4,892,933lb. avoirdupois, as returned by the Japanese customs at this port. July 1st to September 30th, 1864, 3,396,600lb., or 11,322 bales, all pressed by machinery, weighing 300lb. per bale. The probable export of this year will, I think, be over 7,000,000lb., or approaching 8,000,000lb. The great point of destination for the cotton crop of Japan is Osaka, on the inland sea, from which it is distributed. The season for sowing is the end of May or the beginning of June. The season for picking usually extends through the whole of October; in backward seasons it is protracted into the first days of November. Under ordinary circumstances 3d. per lb. would be remunerative.

The common yield of an acre of land is about 250lb., or about 100 to 115 pieces of Japanese long cloth, 9½ yards long by 12 inches wide. The replies to the queries refer only to this district and the neighbourhood of Yedo. The farmers produce little more cotton than is required for the supply of their own wants. The high price of cotton has stimulated production this year to perhaps double the amount of last. The best cotton districts in Japan are in the southern part of Nippon, bordering on the inland sea. In this region cotton is sown in drills, about 16 inches apart, between the rows of wheat and rapeseed, while it is still standing, and just before it is harvested. It is manured with liquid manure twice, and the plant attended to, its extreme ends, and all supernumerary buds and sprouts, so as to maintain a vigorous plant and a large boll.—7th October, 1864.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE WAR IN BHOOTAN.

(April 7th.) Lord LYDEN desired to know what measures Government intended to take in consequence of the events lately reported to have taken place in Bhootan. He believed that the annexation of Bhootan to our Indian Empire would be most mischievous.—Lord DUFFERIN hoped that no discussion would take place on this subject until the papers were in the hands of the House. There was no intention whatever to annex Bhootan; but a sufficient number of troops had now been ordered up to hold and retain the frontier forts.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH would have preferred that the troops should have been withdrawn. He could not help feeling that the arrangements for our late expedition against Bhootan had been most imperfect and inadequate.

EAST INDIA HIGH COURTS BILL.

(8th.) This Bill was read a third time and passed.

Their lordships then adjourned until Thursday, the 27th inst.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

EAST INDIA (GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S POWERS, &c.) BILL.

(March 31st.) Mr. VANSITTART said that this Bill proposed to enlarge the powers of the Governor-General for making laws and regulations in India, and to that he entertained no objection. He deeply regretted the result of recent operations in Bhootan, which reflected no lustre on our arms. He wished to know whether instructions had not been issued to Sir J. Lawrence not to make any new appointments of greater value than £400 a year. He could not reconcile this petty interference with the professed object of this Bill.—Sir C. WOOD said the operations in Bhootan had been undertaken at the recommendation of the Lieut.-Governor of Bengal, but the troops were not to occupy territory, but only to hold a line of forts to protect our own frontier. With regard to the second point, it had been from time immemorial the standing rule not to make any new appointment above a certain value without the sanction of the Home Government. The Bill then went through Committee.

CHINESE LAW WITH REGARD TO EUROPEANS.

(April 6th.) Colonel SYKES, who had on the votes a notice of his intention to ask a question, said it would hardly be intelligible without explanation. A boat sent up the river for silk was plundered by three Europeans. They were apprehended, one at Shanghai, two at Hong Kong, and thrown into prison. A partner in the firm which had been robbed, Mr. Hart, wrote, and said, "We have the culprits in custody, and they will be punished if we don't get back the dollars." But instead of the prisoners being punished, the judge at Hong Kong had released them, on the ground that there was no law in China to punish Europeans who committed robberies in China. His question was whether the law controlling the conduct of British subjects in China was so inoperative that Europeans could commit robberies in the interior upon Europeans and natives with impunity.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the only answer he could give was this,—that any Europeans committing an act which would be a crime by the law of this country were amenable, if they could be caught and the fact proved, to the consular authorities in China, and also to the Criminal Court at Hong Kong. There might be difficulty in getting evidence; and he supposed that a case in China could never be the same as one in England.

COLONIAL BISHOPS.

(6th.) In answer to Mr. H. SEYMOUR, Mr. CARDWELL said the patents which had been issued by the Patent-office were now undergoing careful examination, with a view of submitting a case for the opinion of the law officers of the Crown. It was the intention of the Government most carefully to examine the late decision of the Privy Council before any further patents were issued.

THE BHOOTAN EXPEDITION.

(6th.) In answer to various questions from Lord DUNKELLIN, SIR C. WOOD said that the instructions given in India were to occupy the passes leading into Bhootan, and not to make any occupation in that country,

and the right hon. gentleman said that he was very averse to any occupation of that territory, because he did not see how they could withdraw their troops if they once were allowed to occupy it. He had received information up to December last, from which it appeared that Her Majesty's forces had lost only five men. In January the Bhootians had taken up a position which led to Her Majesty's troops evacuating two of the passes. The result of the whole operations was that the Government of India had sent forward one regiment and a half of British troops into that country, but he could not say what arrangements had been made for the purpose of ensuring protection against the effect of the weather. The following was from a despatch which he had just received:—"We shall spare no pains to provide shelter for the troops and to secure their health."

THE WAR IN BHOOTAN.

(7th.) Mr. H. SEYMOUR wished to call attention to the great disaster which had occurred to our arms in India from the failure of the expedition to Bhootan. He wished to know what information on this subject could be afforded by the Secretary of State for India.—Sir C. WOOD assured the hon. gentleman that the reports from which they had obtained their information were without foundation, and devoid of truth. He denied that one-third of the force had been lost, or that any considerable proportion of the army had been sacrificed. The state of affairs at the present moment was that the Government were in possession of territory which they proposed to hold, and he submitted that it was not quite fair to condemn any officers until further information was afforded by the arrival of the mail.

INDIAN FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

(7th.) Mr. H. SEYMOUR asked whether it was true that a customs' duty had been placed on jute, coffee, and various other articles, and that the income-tax had been continued in India.—Sir C. WOOD said there was some inconvenience in the telegraph system, and no information could have arrived by post from Calcutta relating to the result of the propositions made at Calcutta on the subject of finance, because such financial statement could not be made earlier than March 31. Whatever had appeared in the papers could only be received by telegraph. He had received a telegram, dated the 3rd of April, stating that the income-tax had not been renewed, but that certain duties had been placed on certain articles of produce in India. He could hardly doubt the fact; but, at the same time, it was so totally the reverse of everything he had reason to suppose would be done by Her Majesty's Government in India, that he hardly knew whether to believe it or not.

BRITISH OUTRAGES IN CHINA.

(7th.) Colonel SYKES asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether Mr. Consul Swinhoe had made a report that the British merchant steamer *Elphin*, while loading sugar at Takao, was hired by the local Mandarin to go out of port and attack junks said to be piratical, on the agreement that captured junks should belong to the captain of the *Elphin* and crew; that the steamer went out and attacked a junk pointed out, which did not make any resistance, nevertheless she was fired into and one of the crew killed, and the remainder of the crew, twenty-one in number, taken prisoners and lodged in the hong of Messrs. Lesler and Co., and the junk carried into Takao; that Mr. Consul Swinhoe tried the captain, a Prussian subject, and condemned him to a penalty of 600 dollars, afterwards reduced to 400, as a sufficient penalty for the murder; and, in case Consul Swinhoe's report had not been received, whether it would be sent for; and whether the Hong Kong Ordinance, No. 1, of January 1855, which prohibits British subjects from giving military aid to the Chinese Government and the rebels would or would not be enforced, and commanders of British merchant vessels, or other offenders be suitably punished for shedding blood for profit.—Mr. LAYARD: In answer to my hon. and gallant friend, I have to state that no report of the circumstance mentioned by him has been received at the Foreign-office. I do not think it necessary to send to Consul Swinhoe for a particular report, because it is the duty of the consul to report all such cases as may require special notice. If it had been a case requiring special notice, I have no doubt we should have had a full report. As regards the second part of the question, I can add nothing to what has been stated twice by the Attorney-General. The law, of course, will be put in force if proper evidence is produced and proper proceedings are taken before the consular court in China.—At its rising the House adjourned to Monday, the 24th April.

Continental Intelligence.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

APRIL 6.

A Holstein newspaper, published at Altona, announces the return, on a visit to his father, who is a civil functionary in the town of Wilster, of Captain Alfred Tetens, who, after a series of romantic adventures, has become Viceroy of one of the Caroline Islands, a group but little known, lying in the Pacific to the north of New Guinea or Papua, and to the east of the Philippines. It appears that this gentleman, when quite young and fond of adventures, betook himself to a roving life, and served as sailor in several vessels navigating the China Seas, and in the course of his peripatations visited one of the Caroline Islands to complete by barter with the natives a cargo of beche-de-mer for the China market. He subsequently returned to the same island, married the King's daughter, was tattooed right and left, commanded with success several hostile expeditions to the other islands of the group, returning in triumph with several chieftains as prisoners of war. For his courage and ability in conducting these expeditions he was raised to the dignity of Knight of the native "Order of the Bone." He then bought one of the islands, on which he built a comfortable house, now

inhabited during his absence by his Royal father-in-law, who conferred on him the vice-royalty of the island, which produces abundantly indigo, tobacco, and excellent cotton. Having now undertaken the command of a vessel filled with a cargo of native produce, he arrived with it safely at Amsterdam, from which city he has travelled to his native place, and gladdened the hearts of his aged parents, who had long since given him up for lost. Captain Tetens has called the attention of the Prussian Government to the fact that the Caroline Islands are not occupied by any Europeans, and that possession of them might easily be acquired. It may therefore be expected that they will shortly be visited by one of the Prussian men-of-war on the China station.

From St. Petersburg we learn that the annual convivial meeting of the Oriental Siberians residing in that city was held last week, when upwards of eighty sat down to a sumptuous repast, which was honoured by the presence of Count Muravieff-Amoorsky, formerly Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, and several other notabilities. After the usual loyal toasts had been given and duly responded to, it was proposed to open a subscription for the purpose of founding a bursarship at the University of St. Petersburg, for a student native of East Siberia, to be called, in honour of the late Governor-General, "Bursarship of Count Nicholas Muravieff-Amoorsky." The proposal found general favour, and was immediately responded to in such a liberal manner, that the subscriptions on the spot amounted to 5,000 silver roubles.

On the 25th ult. the contract between the General Administration of the Russian Telegraph Department and Mr. Sibley, Chairman of the American "Western Union Telegraph Company," for the establishment of telegraphic communication between Europe and America via Siberia, was signed at St. Petersburg. The company binds itself to raise for the execution of the works the sum of ten millions of dollars, of which 8,434,600 dollars are already subscribed by American capitalists. The telegraph is to be finished the whole distance, and opened for the transmission of messages between New York and all the stations in Great Britain and Ireland within the space of five years from the date of signing the contract—consequently by the 25th of March, 1870, at the latest. It certainly seems extraordinary that our transatlantic cousins should be in such a desperate hurry to risk such a large stake as the above-mentioned sum already subscribed, with full knowledge of the fact that in the beginning of July next the *Great Eastern* will sail from the shores of Ireland to lay down the new direct Atlantic telegraph cable; and, if it succeeds, the messages will, of course, be transmitted by it not only quicker but much more cheaply. One would imagine common prudence would have dictated the desirability of waiting for at least three or four short months, under the circumstances of the case, as, if it succeeds, the Russian-American gigantic scheme will be of but little commercial or political importance, and, in fact, nearly superfluous.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The business in this market is beginning now to take larger dimensions as the navigation with the north of Europe re-opens. Prices of all descriptions are well kept up. Sales of the week, 12,000 bags. Fresh supplies arrive freely, so that the imports to the end of March are now nearly what they were last year (13,100,000 lbs. against 13,900,000 lbs. in 1864), whilst the stock is rather larger (8,060,000 lbs. against 7,000,000 lbs. last year).

SUGAR.—A fall of 4 to 8 Sch. Bco. in values induced purchasers to come forward pretty freely; amongst the dealings may be noticed 13,000 bags of clayed and unclayed Manila. Refined rather dull, and a shade lower, especially for inferior qualities.

RICE.—Market steady, with a sufficiency of business. Rough attracts more attention, and 3,000 bags of common Bengal changed hands.

SPICES.—There have been no sales by importers, and but few by the dealers. Prices without alteration, and firm.

TEA.—More animation is evident, as the assortment is perfected by considerable direct supplies. Among the sales of fresh parcels just arrived were 258 packages of Pecco per Carausius, 460 do. of Congou, and 966 do. of Imperial per Gustav and Ernst, and 1,794 do. of Congou, 559 do. of Souchong, and 277 do. of Pecco per Picciola. Besides the above sales by importers, there were considerable transactions done by the dealers, especially in Souchong, Congou, and various descriptions of green teas. On the whole, the market is in a very satisfactory state, and the prices are steady.

DRUGS.—Refined camphor commands an easy sale, and former prices continue to be realised. A further sale of 200 chests of candied ginger is reported.

SPELTER continues to rise. Since the departure of last mail several parcels have been taken at 13 Mk. 4 Sch., and now higher prices are demanded.

DISCOUNT—2½ to 3½ per cent.

SHIPPING.—Arrived at Cuxhaven: Nornen, from Macao; Cecilie, from Batavia; Persia, from Foo-chow-Foo.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, and other parts of the FAR EAST, will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails via Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 24th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1865.

THE BISHOPRIC OF VICTORIA (HONG KONG).

No appointment has yet been made to this vacant colonial see. The recent judgment of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council on the Colenso case has brought into prominent notice the legal error under which the Sovereign had been led by her advisers to issue Letters Patent constituting colonial dioceses, and conferring on the colonial bishops so appointed ecclesiastical jurisdiction, beyond the powers of the Royal prerogative. Although this excess of the Royal prerogative applies only to colonies possessing self-government and an independent local Legislature, the case of Crown colonies is on this account reserved, as but partially affected by the recent judgment—it is nevertheless understood that there is a reluctance on the part of the Colonial Office authorities to make any new nominations in the present uncertainty, and that the whole subject is under review by the Home Government.

In small colonial communities like Hong Kong it is obvious that the institution of an Episcopate was intended by its promoters for far wider and more general objects than merely the local pastoral superintendence of a limited European community in one of the smallest of British settlements. Superintendence of the Anglican missionaries on the continent of China itself, and visitations of the Government chaplains stationed in the various consular ports, formed a part of the arrangements originally contemplated by the founders of the see, and expressly mentioned in Her Majesty's Letters Patent. The unwillingness of the Foreign Office to part with its own direct and exclusive authority over the consular chaplains; the anomalous ecclesiastical position of the various military and naval chaplains in China; and the omnipotence of Home Committees in all the details of Missionary Societies' acts and proceedings in reference to the missionary clergy abroad, have been among those various causes which were calculated to dwarf the influence and usefulness of a bishop within the dimensions of a colonial chaplain-in-chief at Hong Kong. The late Bishop in some measure counteracted this disadvantage by active itinerant labours and periodical visits along the Chinese coast. But the voluntary relations of the clergy towards a bishop, grounded on friendly intercourse and mutual respect, fell far short of that diocesan jurisdiction usually attached to the idea of an episcopate, and were insufficient to meet the exigencies of an effective oversight of the clergy. It was a state of things satisfactory in some respects, but also unsatisfactory in many others. Unity of missionary plans for the extension of Christianity in China could but partially be secured. Sustained by the fraternal sympathies of the clergy as a body of personal friends, a bishop in such circumstances was at the same time powerless in point of legal jurisdiction for checking and removing scandals on the part of exceptional and unworthy members of the clerical order. The colonial community at Hong Kong may reasonably regret the result which appears likely to take place in the termination of an Anglican episcopate in China. It could hardly be expected, however, that amid existing complications of ecclesiastical law and Royal prerogative, any body of Churchmen at home should be able to interpose to preserve a colonial see which labours under the peculiar disadvantages which have been enumerated, and to which the colony itself has contributed no portion of the endowment or stipend. An American bishop at Shanghai,

of the sister Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, will probably supply to the Protestant Episcopal missions in the neighbourhood of the northern ports of China a ready and available means of confirmation and ordination of native Christians. An English bishop of Labuan, who, on the transference of the Straits Settlements from the Indian Government to the Colonial Office, is likely to be placed in charge of the English congregations at Singapore and its vicinity, may also, possibly under new arrangements, be requested to pay occasional visits to Hong Kong for the performance of any required episcopal functions in the colony. For the present, we believe that nothing has been finally decided upon. While we desire carefully to guard the preceding statements as only falling at present under the category of probabilities, we beg leave at the same time to convey to our readers the impression that we receive our information from credible authority, in saying that it is in the highest degree doubtful whether there will be any second appointment of a Bishop of Victoria.

SAN FRANCISCO, JAPAN, AND CHINA LINE.

AFTER ten years' discussion of the project for connecting California with Japan and China by a subsidised steam line—a discussion which we have closely followed in its varying phases—the American Congress has at last sanctioned the payment of \$500,000 (£100,000) per annum for that purpose, the line to be a monthly one, San Francisco and Shanghai to be the respective termini, the intermediate points touched at being Honolulu and Yokohama, with such other points at the Bonin Islands or in Japan, as may from time to time be thought desirable. The length of the entire route is estimated at 5,373 miles, or twenty-one days' steaming, which would allow of a large gain as to time in the transit between New York and the Far East. California herself, in addition to becoming thus the media for the passenger and more valuable merchandise traffic between the Atlantic States and the Far East, will find her account in the export of silver, her production of which, added to that of neighbouring States and territories, is estimated for the present year at no less than £4,500,000. In the case of a gold-producing country, the precious metals, regarded in the light of so much merchandise, are certain to prove one of the most profitable remittances even in the way of trade. The idea has already been actively entertained both in San Francisco and New York, of securing increased profit in the trade with Japan by the manufacture at private mints of pieces of the purity, size and shape of the Japanese ichi-bou. It is well known that the dollars on which Japanese exchange is calculated, are coined not only in Mexico but in the South American States; and we would be curious to watch the result of this experiment. The Imperial Mint at Hong Kong must be awake to this future. As the Bill has passed almost unanimously both the Washington House of Representatives and the Senate, we may assume that it has by this time been signed by the President, and will, with the usual enterprise of our American cousins, be at work early in 1866.

THE NEW MINISTER FOR JAPAN.

We have the pleasure to announce that the suggestion made in our last has been carried into effect, and the official announcement will shortly be made appointing Sir Harry Parkes to succeed Sir R. Alcock as Minister at the Court of Japan. We may now feel some security that the policy pursued during 1864 will be at least persevered in, if not carried through successfully, until the Tycoon is thoroughly convinced that we will not succumb to any threats.

MORE VESSELS FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

Messrs. Denny and Co., of Dumbarton, have launched another steamer, named the *Yangtze*, which it is very probable will be despatched to China, in addition to the *Corea*, which we lately noticed. The *Yangtze* is a handsome iron twin screw-steamer, of 1,100 tons B.M. She will be fitted with two pairs of direct acting condensing steam engines of 300-horse power nominal, and is adapted for passenger and goods traffic on a light draught. The ceremony of naming her *Yangtze* was performed by Miss Annie Daniel, granddaughter of P. Daniel, Esq.

There was recently launched from the yard of the Birkenhead Graving Dock Company the composite ship *Chusan*. The naming ceremony was performed by Miss Hunter, of Mount Alyn, Gresford. The *Chusan* has been built for the China trade, her owners being the British and Eastern Shipping Company, of Liverpool. The *Chusan* is a vessel of 800 tons. Her dimensions are:—Length, 183 feet; beam, 31 feet 6 inches; depth, 20 feet. This ship has been constructed with vertical iron frames and planked with teak horizontally. No internal component part of the vessel is of wood, and the whole of the inner surface is at all

times to be seen without the removal of any ceiling. She will be despatched first to an Indian port.

The other day there was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. Hart and Sinnott a very splendid ship for the East India trade called the *Oriflamme*. The vessel is 1,500 tons burthen, and has been built for the Bombay Shipping Company. Her length is 250 feet, breadth 36 feet, and depth of hold 23 feet. She is built of the best materials, and is classed A 1 at Lloyd's for 12 years, and at Liverpool for 20 years. She is intended for the Bombay trade, and will be commanded by Captain Broadfoot, of the R.N.R. The *Oriflamme* went off the stocks in beautiful style, and was christened by Mrs. Gilmore, the lady of one of the principal owners. The vessel will be ready for sea in about six weeks.

The launch of a vessel from the yard of Messrs. Hocking and Son, Stonehouse, took place on the 29th ult. She is metalled to the height of 18 feet, and is divided by lower and upper decks; her saloon (25 by 14) made of teak. Under the lower deck is a capacious hold. She is intended for the China Seas and Cape Mauritius, and was named *Sophie*. The following are her proportions:—Length between perpendiculars, 141 feet; breadth extreme, 29 feet; moulded, 28 feet 2 inches; burthen, for tonnage, 536 by the old, 475 by the new rule; depth of hold, 18 feet; draught of water when ready for sea, forward 8 feet, aft 10 feet.

Monetary and Commercial.

Much distrust exists in the East India and China trade. This feeling has been very much confirmed by the failure of Messrs. Kelson, Tritton, and Co., a house established in 1858, who entered largely into the East India trade, but, like many others, had ventures in the American trade. This house is of a similar calibre to Messrs. Halliday, Fox, and Co., and their difficulties about cotemporary, although they contrived to throw them over until the present. This is one of the cases to which we referred in January, when we cautioned our readers that heavy engagements had been thrown over from 1864 to 1865. With the existing prices in Mincing-lane other failures are imminent.

Many acceptances are current of bills drawn against India and China cotton at the rate of 1s. 2d. per lb., which is valued at 6d. to 9d. For the present there is little chance of any improvement in this staple, but if the Confederates can hold out another six months, we fully expect rates to advance to their former quotations. This opinion is based chiefly on supply and demand. We expect the supplies to fall off very considerably, and the consumption of the mills to be more active.

The liabilities of Messrs. Kelson, Tritton, and Co. are computed at nearly £1,000,000, and the assets will, it is believed, be satisfactory. This is without taking into account a Confederate speculation. A few months since these liabilities were very much larger, and there is little doubt but that acceptances and credit have been too freely granted, and the business extended over too large an area for a young house, while corresponding vigilance and labour has not been bestowed on the conduct of the business of the firm, judging from the fact of Mr. Kelson having engaged himself as a director on several of the schemes formed of late, while it is now known to the world that the affairs of the house he was at the head of required all his best talent and energy to conduct it through the enormous engagements to which it was committed. The penalty paid, we trust, will be for the benefit of others.

At a meeting of the Netherlands India Steam Company, on the 30th of March, the report was adopted. The report stated that the capital of the company, consisting of £300,000, divided into 15,000 shares of £20 each, was all subscribed for on the 1st of July last, with the exception of 3,000 shares reserved for Netherlands India. The company has now nine steamers in course of construction, and these, it is believed, will be sufficient for carrying on the steam service specified in the contract, and some extra service in addition. Interest at 6 per cent. per annum on the amount paid up has been paid to the shareholders to the 1st of January last.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta £174,210, and to Madras £22,000. The minimum price was fixed at 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11½d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at and above the minimum will receive in full. On Bombay all the tenders were below the minimum. These terms show a reduction of more than 1 per cent. from those obtained on the last occasion, and indicate a further rapid diminution in the demand for means of remittance from this country.

The following is from the report of the directors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, to be submitted at the meeting on the 12th inst., and confirms the view we lately expressed, that the banks would be holders of shipping documents, representing, when realised, about half the amounts they had advanced;—

The general balance-sheet for the year ended the 31st of December last, now presented to the shareholders, exhibits a net profit of £104,827. 18s. 5d., to which has to be added the sum of £13,061. 14s. 4d., carried forward from the previous year. After deducting the half-yearly interim dividend declared on the 5th of October last, amounting to £54,540, there remains a disposable balance now of £63,349. 12s. 9d. The directors regret that they feel under the necessity of setting aside a sum of £22,000 to meet bad and doubtful debts, chiefly attributable to the recent depreciation of Eastern produce held as collateral security. Out of the sum of £41,349. 12s. 9d. remaining, they recommend the shareholders to declare a dividend for the half-year ended 31st December last, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, and which with the previous half-year's interim dividend will amount to 12½ per cent. for the whole year. A balance of £1,349. 12s. 9d. will then remain to be carried over to the new account. At the last annual meeting the directors reported that the premium on the issue of 7,800 new shares had been received; and they have now to add that all the calls in furtherance of this increase of the bank's capital, raising it to £800,000, were duly paid up—the reserve fund now amounting to £105,000. The directors consider it extremely desirable for the interests of the bank to obtain for the shareholders the right, which most chartered banks, and all companies incorporated by Act of Parliament, appear to possess, of re-electing immediately all the directors duly qualified who may go out annually by rotation; the existing charter of this bank restricts the shareholders' choice to the re-election of only one of the out-going directors. The opportunity of this application to the Treasury would also be availed of to solicit that the directors may make provisional appointments in case of vacancy in their number during the year—such occasional appointments to be subject to confirmation by the shareholders at the next ensuing ordinary general meeting. They propose accordingly to apply to Her Majesty's Treasury for those privileges; and in terms of the deed of settlement, two extraordinary general meetings of the shareholders must sanction the application. After despatch, therefore, of the business of the ordinary meeting this day, it will be constituted an extraordinary one for the special objects indicated.

It will be seen from the following reply that it is very improbable, as we intimated at the time, that the change will be effected in the despatch of the mails.

“General Post-office, London, March 30.

“Sir,—With reference to the memorial which you transmitted to the Postmaster-General on the 20th of January last from merchants, bankers, and others suggesting that the East India mails should be despatched from London on the evening of every Friday instead of four times in each month, I am directed by his Lordship to inform you that this department has for a long time past been alive to the advantage which would be derived from an arrangement under which those mails would be despatched on a fixed day in each week, but that it has been deterred from the adoption of such an arrangement by the large additional expense which it would probably cause in a service already entailing a heavy loss.

“Any change in the days for the despatch of the Indian mails would, of course, affect the despatch also of the mails for Australia, which are carried as far as Point de Galle by the Indian mail packets, and in consequence of the receipt of the memorial referred to the form of tender which had been issued for the conveyance of the Australian mails has been altered with a view of ascertaining what would be the extent of the additional cost for this portion of the whole service, in the event of the mails being despatched every fourth week instead of once in a calendar month. The tenders are to be sent in on the 10th of next month, and when received they will, in addition to other information already obtained, afford the means of judging what would be the probable cost of the entire service beyond that which is now paid if the proposed arrangement were carried into effect.

“I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

“Mr. R. W. Crawford, M.P.”

“F. HILL.

At the meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation, to be held on the 20th of April, the directors propose to declare a dividend of £2 a share, making, with £2 already paid, a distribution of 16 per cent. for 1864.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delhi* from Southampton on the 4th inst., was in gold, to Madras, £90. In silver, to Galle, £430; to Singapore, £21,000; to Hong Kong, £3,958; to Foo-chow-Foo, £2,000; to Shanghai, £5,230. Total in gold, £90; in silver, £32,618.

The results exhibited by the Board of Trade Returns for the month and two months ending the 28th February indicate a more cautious spirit than that prevailing last year. The decline of over a million and a quarter in the value of our exports during the past month is a strong sign of this feeling; but although the falling off extends to most of the leading articles of commerce, the chief decline is to be found in the articles of cotton yarn and cotton manufactures. The total declared value of exports for February last was £11,376,214, against £12,698,121 in the same month of 1864, and £9,298,576 in 1863, being a decline, as compared with 1864, of £1,321,907, but, as contrasted with 1863, an increase of £2,077,638. For the two months of the present year the total is £21,865,553, against £23,111,707 in 1864, and £17,343,731 in 1863, which is a decrease on the former period of £1,246,154, but an increase on the latter of £4,521,822. The brief changes as regards exports have been an increase in linen manufactures and machinery, with a decline in alkali, beer and ale, coals and culm, cotton yarn, cotton manufactures, haberdashery and millinery, hardware and cutlery, linen yarn, metals, seed oil, silk manufactures, wool, woollen

and worsted yarn, and woollen manufactures. In imports the increase has been in raw cotton, guano, hemp, raw silk, tallow, wool, coffee and sugar; and the falling off, in flaxseed and linseed, woollen manufactures, cocoa, spirits, tea, timber, tobacco and wine. The course of trade with the Far East is presented in these returns by the following figures:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	12,410 ..	383,130 ..	98,050 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	509,672 ..	2,788,445 ..	5,885,356 yds.
Worsted stuffs	296,914 ..	901,999 ..	1,427,045 "
Woollen and worsted cloths	13,582 ..	30,932 ..	27,366 "
Lead	1,248 ..	491 ..	300 tons

	Value for the Two Months ended 28th February.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	£13,413 ..	£44,996 ..	£27,976 ..	
Cotton manufactures ..	49,063 ..	146,791 ..	275,083 ..	
Worsted stuffs	55,747 ..	108,118 ..	165,246 ..	
Woollen and worsted cloths	32,606 ..	47,879 ..	40,573 ..	
Lead	39,283 ..	21,713 ..	14,148 ..	

The quantity of Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East during the month of February, and the value for the two months of the present year are returned as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	175,559 ..	1,913,703 ..	490,944 yds.
Singapore	185,080 ..	6,600,262 ..	4,289,066 "
Java	— ..	4,413,017 ..	1,356,618 "
Philippine Islands ..	1,645,751 ..	1,380,007 ..	3,741,760 "
Ceylon	£15,925 ..	£117,252 ..	£33,791 ..
Singapore	35,922 ..	191,214 ..	162,912 ..
Java	19,757 ..	125,466 ..	70,895 ..
Philippine Islands ..	37,400 ..	99,118 ..	178,958 ..

Of Cotton Yarn 170,600 lbs. was forwarded to Singapore in the month of February, and 4,000 lbs. to Ceylon; the value of the export, for the two months ended 28th February being—to Singapore, £25,848; and to Ceylon, £850.

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton, the quantity imported shows an increase with respect to China but a decrease from British India, as compared with last year. This important article figures in the returns thus—

	Quantity for the month of February.	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India	188,599 ..	203,672 ..	158,243 cwt.	
China	7,316 ..	21,137 ..	28,256 "	
British India	265,025 ..	233,645 ..	186,104 ..	
China	7,316 ..	28,988 ..	45,652 "	
British India	£589,479 ..	£310,619 ..	£211,431 ..	
China	— ..	76,024 ..	111,624 ..	

Unrefined Sugar, from Java and the Philippine Islands, was imported in the month of February, to the extent following:—2nd quality (not equal to White, but equal to Brown clayed) 1,154 cwt.; 3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed, but equal to Brown Muscovado) 16,216 cwt.; 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscovado) 32,390 cwt. The value of the import for the month ended 31st January in the present year was—3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed), £460; 4th quality, £21,533.

Of Hemp, the import from the Philippine Islands in the month of February was 21,795 cwt., and for the two months of the present year 29,576 cwt. The value of the import for the month of January was £11,282. There was no import of this article during the months of January and February last year.

Of Coffee the importation from Ceylon, both for the month and the two months, exhibits a decrease as compared with preceding years:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
For February	1,497,567 ..	1,327,184 ..	573,370 lbs.
For the two months ..	6,324,731 ..	4,946,391 ..	3,385,469 "

The present Returns give the value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported to different ports and countries during the month of January in this and the two preceding years; and also the Computed Real Value of the Merchandise Imported during the year ended the 31st December, 1864, and the same two years. We extract the figures relating to the Far East:—

	Exports for the Month ended 31st January.	1863.	1864.	1865.
To China (exclusive of Hong Kong) ..	£89,678 ..	£173,536 ..	£160,072 ..	
Hong Kong	80,263 ..	58,936 ..	110,779 ..	
Singapore and the Eastern Straits ..	72,125 ..	35,143 ..	109,819 ..	
Ceylon	38,483 ..	88,416 ..	37,615 ..	
Netherlands India	29,952 ..	26,207 ..	47,939 ..	
Philippine Islands	— ..	82,772 ..	116,253 ..	
Japan	13,462 ..	16,048 ..	48,951 ..	
	Imports for the Year ended 31st December.	1862.	1863.	1864.
From China (exclu. of H. Kong) ..	£11,982,374 ..	£12,897,403 ..	£12,792,001 ..	
Hong Kong	154,721 ..	1,288,907 ..	2,881,929 ..	
Singapore and the Eastern Straits ..	2,375,813 ..	1,830,522 ..	2,056,817 ..	
Ceylon	2,488,262 ..	3,699,425 ..	3,178,820 ..	
Netherlands India	96,026 ..	22,417 ..	16,749 ..	
Philippine Islands	708,866 ..	1,392,198 ..	854,435 ..	
Borneo (native territories) ..	32,212 ..	45,555 ..	66,530 ..	
Siam	37,824 ..	20,746 ..	14,522 ..	
Cochin - China, Camboja ..	— ..	— ..	— ..	
Tonquin	— ..	— ..	— ..	4
Japan	591,885 ..	1,283,631 ..	1,423,819 ..	

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices March 27.
£100	Agna and Masterman's .. .	50	119 to 121	120 to 125 xd.
50	Do. New .. .	25	59 to 60	60 to 62 xd.
50	Do. .. .	25	—	59 to 61
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China .. .	All	29 to 31	31 to 33
20	Do. New .. .	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China .. .	All	53 to 55	51 to 53
25	Commercial of India and the East .. .	All	35 to 37	36 to 39
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.) .. .	All	—	36 to 39
20	Eastern Exchange .. .	5	1½ to 1½ dis.	1½ to 1½ dis.
50	London Joint Stock .. .	15	47 to 49	46½ to 47½
100	London and Westminster .. .	20	94 to 96	93 to 95
25	Oriental Bank Corporation .. .	All	53 to 55	55 to 57
100	Union of London .. .	15	53 to 55	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan .. .	25	2 dis. to par.	par to 2 pm.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm. .. .	25	4 to dis.	4 dis. to 4 pm.
100	Do. New .. .	10	3 to 2 dis.	2 to 1 dis.
20	Somde, Punjab, and Delhi .. .	10	1½ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt .. .	All	30 to 32	30 to 32
125	Bank of London .. .	50	143 to 146	144 to 152
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .. .	4	1½ to 1 pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
MISCELLANEOUS				
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph ..	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company .. .	All	82 to 84	81 to 83
50	Do. New .. .	35	21 to 23 pm.	20 to 22 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co ..	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas .. .	All	5½ to 6½	5½ to 5½ xn.
10	Hong Kong Gas .. .	All	—	2½ to 14 dis.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal .. .	10	3 to 2 dis.	3½ to 14 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company .. .	1	1 dis. to 1½ pm.	1 dis. to 1½ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal .. .	1	20 to 21	18½ to 19½
1	Oriental Gas .. .	All	1½ to 1½	1½ to 1½
1	Do. New .. .	All	1½ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam .. .	All	2½ to 3	2½ to 2½
100	West India Steam Company .. .	60	98 to 102	96 to 98
20	Ceylon Company .. .	7	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 2½ pm.
20	International Finance Society .. .	6	1½ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company ..	4	2½ to 2½ pm.	2½ to 2½ pm.
50	London Financial Association .. .	15	7 to 7½ pm.	5½ to 6½ pm.
20	(Egyptian Com. & Trading Company) ..	4	1 dis. to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
20	Societe Financiere d'Egypte .. .	10	2½ to 1 dis.	2 to 1½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company .. .	31	13½ to 16	13½ to 15½
10	Upper Assam Tea .. .	34	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do. .. .	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There has been a reaction in the market since the departure of the last mail, producing a larger business. There has been a speculative movement in Common to Fair kinds of Congou, and the Trade also have bought with more confidence. The low and dusty kinds of Congou have recovered the decline of ½d. per lb. lately current, owing to some demand for Export. Fair to good common have also sold rather higher. Common to fair flavory kinds show about ½d. per lb. advance on the late low rates. Good to fine Kaisows have been in moderate request at former prices. Finest have been rather more inquired for. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds, owing to further speculative purchases, have advanced about ½d. per lb. Medium qualities have been sold to a fair extent at about former prices; the finer kinds have been fairly saleable at rather better prices; in finest sales continue very limited. Tayshans show no change, they being now only in moderate supply; new-make Canton kinds have been sold at rather improved prices. Common to good Oolongs show no change; fine continue in moderate demand at full prices. In Souchongs a small amount of business has been done at former prices. Flowery Pekoes remain without improvement. In Scented Teas, both Capers and Orange Pekoes, but little has been done: prices show no quotable alteration, though the market for them is without animation. A few sales of uncoloured Japans have been made at from 11d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., but the supplies on offer are still in excess of the requirements of exporters. There have been no further public sales of Indian Tea, but some are advertised for Tuesday next (the 11th). Green Teas show no improvement, they continue to be sold without reserve at public sale at still lower prices. There has been some demand for export for Young Hysons, but even this has not prevented a further decline in prices. Hysons remain exceptionally firm. Gunpowders have sold at a further decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Canton-made kinds are still in very limited demand, and prices rather lower. The series of sales, which commenced on the 21st ult., only closed on the 29th ult. Out of 39,318 packages brought forward, 37,407 packages were sold, 36,445 packages being without reserve. 18,174 packages were brought forward on the 4th inst., of which 12,169 packages were sold, 10,129 packages being printed without reserve. The deliveries for the month reach 10,480,000 lbs. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 31st ult. was estimated at 115,000,000 lbs., against 106,400,000 lbs., and the quantity allotted at 21,465,000 lbs., against 26,195,290 lbs. last year.

SILK.—The necessities of consumers acting upon an extremely limited stock, has restored prices to the highest point previously obtained for China Silk, and almost the highest point for Japan Silk. The deliveries too, show some improvement upon those of February, while the arrivals have been very small. Deliveries up to 7th April:—China, 564 bales; Japan, 201 bales; Canton, 14 bales. Arrivals in April to date:—China 800 bales.

	CHINA.	Usual Imports.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2 .. .	.. .	s. d. s. d.
" No. 3 and 4 .. .	.. .	27 0 to 28 0
" No. 5 .. .	.. .	24 6 to 26 0
Ditto, Hang-Chow .. .	.. .	23 6 to 24 0
Yu-un fa .. .	.. .	16 6 to 23 6
Taysam .. .	.. .	19 0 to 23 0
Ditto, skeins .. .	.. .	None.
Ditto, long reel .. .	.. .	21 0 to 22 0
Canton .. .	.. .	14 6 to 20 6
Chinese Thrown .. .	.. .	19 6 to 21 0
	JAPAN.	Common and Ordinary.
Maibash, dyepot .. .	.. .	s. d. s. d.
Ida, bricks .. .	.. .	26 0 to 27 6
		24 6 to 25

Sodai ..	24	0	26	0
Oahu, re-reced.	25	0	26	0
Koshu, Selé	24	0	25	6
Archeran, elips.	23	6	24	6
Mashtah	23	6	24	6
Hatchojee, Tussah	14	0	17	6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock.			Unsold Stock.			Delivered.		
	April 1, 1865.	April 1, 1864.	April 1, 1863.	April 1, 1864.	Jan. 1 to April 7, 1865.	Jan. 1 to April 8, 1864.	Jan. 1 to April 7, 1865.	Jan. 1 to April 8, 1864.	
Bengal.....	2,380	1,198	2,032	5,512	2,760	1,208			
China.....	5,769	7,247	2,784	9,885	8,199	7,237			
Japan.....	2,667	3,720	2,053	4,614	3,116	4,225			
Canton.....	30	284	30	97	339	779			
Chinese Thrown ..	40	264	28	612	65	319			

COTTON.—The London Cotton Brokers' Association again report a dull and drooping market for most descriptions. China and Japan are 4d. lower. The closing quotations are—China: mid. fair, 7½d.; fair to good fair, 7½d. to 8d.; good to fine 9½d. Japan: mid. fair, 7½d.; fair to good fair, 8d. to 9½d.; good to fine, 10d. to 11d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 6th April was 18,360 bales, against 24,315 bales at same time last year. The total stock in London was 127,545 bales against 90,333 bales last year. The stock in Liverpool on the 7th April was 605,453 bales against 308,640 bales in 1864. Afloat to Europe on the 7th of this year were 36,885 bales of China and 65 bales Japan; against 109,276 bales China and 6,792 bales Japan last year; the Anna Maria, arrived in London from Yokohama during the week, brought 632 bales. In the Liverpool market, China and Japan declined ¼d. to ¾d. per lb. during the week.

SUGAR.—There has been a gradually improving demand during the past week, and rather large transactions have been concluded, mostly at firmer prices. 3,286 bags Penang were all disposed of, but at relatively moderate prices, good to fine fine brown 27s. 6d. to 29s. 6d., low to good yellow 30s. to 32s., fine and superior grey 33s. to 34s. 6d. By private contract the transactions have been of considerable amount, comprising 8,200 bags Clayed Manila at 28s.; 220 baskets Java, sound at 36s. 9d., washed 35s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The recent heavy arrivals of Ceylon continue to be liberally brought forward, and prices have again mostly given way. Public sales of Plantation, amounting to 2,030 casks, 1,060 barrels and bags, have gone off irregularly, in some instances at rather lower prices, but nearly the whole quantity offered has been cleared off; fine fine ordinary to low middling 77s. 6d. to 81s., middling to good middling 81s. 6d. to 87s., fine color 93s. to 94s. 6d. The native description has been only saleable at a further depreciation of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt., at which, however, the bulk of 94 casks, 5,920 bags found buyers; small, 64s. to 65s.; good ordinary, 66s. to 67s.; superior, 68s. 6d. to 70s. At auction, 654 bags Singapore sold steadily; good Campar, 63s. 6d., one lot 64s.; 187 bags common Manila were bought in. The lighter amount of 420 casks, 160 barrels and bags Plantation in public sale on the 7th met with a better demand, and were taken at prices rather higher than those just quoted; 152 casks native were held firmly and withdrawn.

RICE.—Prices are well supported, and the following sales have been effected:—15,000 bags Rangoon, fair 9s. to 9s. 6d., fine 10s.; 9,500 bags good fair Nakrenzie 9s. 3d., and 6,000 bags middling to good white Bengal, 12s. 3d. to 14s. 3d.

CAMPOR.—This market has been very animated: large business done, attended with an ultimate advance of 7s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt., and the market remains very firm.

CARDAMOM.—Are again and very materially dearer. 8 barrels Ceylon sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. for middling.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Steady; and 419 boxes at auction mostly sold at 78s. to 79s. per cwt. for good 2nd quality. Buds: Nothing of any consequence doing.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has become much less buoyant. Former terms are not sustained, and at a slight reduction business has been very limited. 227 casks Cochon, 300 casks Ceylon, 29 casks Sydney, and 430 casks Manila at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat, and very little doing; 10 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood: Good quality scarce, and wanted; other sorts neglected; of 5 cases at auction, two sold at £11. 10s. per cwt. for very good lump. Galangal Root: Nothing of any moment doing. Rhubarb: Very firm: of 88 cases at auction, half sold at 5s. 10d. per lb. for fair round, and 2s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. ordinary dark.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Of 84 cases Sumatra at auction, two-thirds sold at £13. 5s. to £13. 10s. per cwt. for good 2nd, and £5. 7s. 6d. to £5. 15s. middling drossy 3d., being dearer. Damar: Is quiet; and of 147 cases at auction, a few only sold at 44s. per cwt. for fair picked. Gamboge: Quiet; and of 24 cases at auction, only two or three sold at £9 to £9. 5s. per cwt. for middling pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Of 18 tons at auction only one-fifth sold, but at steady prices, 1s. 1½d. per lb. for fair genuine but mixed, and 9d. ordinary. India Rubber: Flat, and lower; 144 baskets Penang at auction retired; good Singapore has sold to a moderate extent at 1s. 2d. per lb.

HEMP (MANILA).—Not any auctions have been held; moderate business is reported privately at £29 per ton for good roping, and £27 for arrival, of fair current quality.

HORNS (BUFFALO).—Firm: 4 tons Siam at auction sold at 42s. 6d. per cwt. for 3½ lb. average.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady; of 99 cases at auction half sold at 56s. to 57s. per cwt. for inferior saucers; good block firm.

OILS.—Aniseed: Firmer: 14 cases at auction retired; fair business done privately up to 6s. 3d. per lb., and there is still inquiry thereat. Cassia: Large sale are stated to have been made at advancing prices, and value has risen to 8s. 3d. per lb., at which a few cases have been placed, and the market remains firm. Cinnamon: Firm: of 3 cases at auction two sold at 2s. 9d. per oz. for good sweet.

SAGO.—Flat: only 110 boxes at auction, and those retired. Tapioca: 132 boxes common to middling stained Singapore found buyers at 1d. to 2d.; 200 cases Flour in tins went off at 2½d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—The adverse course of this article continues, and we have report a further fall of 10s. to 15s. per cwt. in the fortnight, of 1,787

packages at auction little more than half sold: Orange at £5 to £6. 2s. 6d. per cwt.; Livery Orange, £5 2s. 6d. to £5. 7s. 5d.; Button, £3. 10s. to £5. 7s. 6d.; Native £4. 10s. to £4. 12s. 6d.; and Block and Blocky, £4. to £5. 17s. 6d.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: We quote 1st sort 1s. 8d. to 2s. 7d.; 2nd 1s. 5d. to 2s. 3d.; 3rd 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle 10d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. 108 bales at auction sold at the previous currency. Cloves: Steady generally; 16 cases Penang at auction sold at 1s. per lb. for middling. Of 18 casks Amboyana, half sold at 5d. and 5½d. per lb. for fair; 36 bags Zanzibar sold at 3½d. to 3½d. for good. Mace: Very firm: only 4 cases Penang at auction, two sold at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. for fair to good reddish. Nutmegs: Are the turn lower generally; and of 309 cases Penang at auction three-fourths sold at 3s. 5d. per lb. for good gold, and 10d. to 2s. 1d. ordinary small to fine medium.

PEPPER.—Black: The speculative demand having for the present subsided, prices have slightly receded; and of 1,424 bags Singapore, and 6,660 bags Penang at auction, about one-third of each sold at 3½d. to 3½d. per lb. for the former, and 3½d. to 3½d. for the latter. White: Is ½d. per lb. cheaper; and of 253 bags Penang at auction, two-thirds sold at 5½d. to 6½d. per lb. for ordinary to very good; and 30 bags good Singapore at 6½d.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Continues very quiet; and of 7,053 bags at auction, a very small proportion sold at 23s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary. Gambier: Very quiet, with retail trade only within our quotations; 435 bales at auction, all retired.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf: The effects of large importations, with more to follow, and very few sales, have combined now to make the aspect of the growth look very dangerous for both holders and speculators. Prices must be considered quite nominal. Manila Segars and Cheroots have sold at full rates; late imports are somewhat inferior. Java: Sales limited; really good lots are wanted at a price. Japan: Continues in fair request; shippers must blame themselves for the result as far as profit goes, if they will send on unsound tobacco. Prices at auction for damaged were lower. Quotations:—Manila Cheroots and Segars, 8s. to 9s. 3d.; Manila Leaf, 7d. to 8s.; Japan, 4d. to 7d.; Java, 6d. to 1s. 0½d.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Turkey flat, and holders very desirous of selling; China and Japan are quiet; only 20 cases China at auction retired. Musk: Firm; only 3 caddies Tonquin Pod at auction sold at 23s. per oz. for ordinary, and 5 tins Grain sold at 53s. to 54s. per oz. for good. Rattans: Steady; and 3,227 bundles Penang at auction sold at 3s. 7d. to 4s. 5d. per 100. Sapanwood: Steady; 24 tons fine clean Batavia sold at auction at £12. 5s. to £13. 10s. per ton; 4 tons Manila retired. Very little doing privately. There is export inquiry for good wood. Soy: Remains firm, with inquiry. Star Aniseeds: Dearer, moderate business having been done privately up to £6. 15s. per cwt.; 16 cases at auction retired. Sticklac (Siam): Very quiet; 163 cases at auction, all retired. Turmeric: No China offering; 10 bags Java at auction sold at 16s. 6d. per cwt. Vermilion: Flat; 20 boxes at auction all retired; sellers at 2s. 6d. per lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 15s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £97 to £93 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8½d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. to 96s. for block; 90s. to 97s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD.—English pig, £20 to £20. 5s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £19. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £24; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There has been but little improvement in the Metal Market during the past month, with but unimportant alterations in prices. Iron: Scotch Pig improved 1s. 6d. to 2s. per ton during the month, and continues to advance; the present price is 62s. 9d. for g.m. b. In Wales the manufacturers are very full of orders. In Staffordshire there is no alteration in quotations, but the iron masters decline fixing a time for delivery while the dispute with the workmen remains unsettled. Copper: In this metal there was more activity, particularly in unmanufactured, and the price is a little higher both for English and Foreign. Tin: English remained flat throughout the past month. For Foreign there was more demand, but, notwithstanding this, the price ruling early in March was not maintained; the price has now recovered to 88s. cash for Straits. Tin Plates continue unaltered in price. The shipments, 105,000 boxes last month, show an increase of 30,000 boxes over the shipments in February. The shipments in March, last year, were 90,000 boxes. Lead continues inactive, and the quotations about 5s. to 10s. per ton lower than at the commencement of March. Spelter is quiet. The stock on the 31st ult. was 7,365 tons, against 11,898 tons the same period last year. Quicksilver without variation.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£62,296
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£4,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£117,149
Singapore	£3,007	£196,020
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,000

FROM MARSEILLES.

(By the P. and O. Company's Steamers.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£2,908
Hong Kong	—	£15,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£11,620
Yokohama	—	£3,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£51,124
To Batavia	£2,133	—
To Hong Kong	—	£11,840
To Shanghai	—	£9,620

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9	to 3 17
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	—
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	—
Silver in Bars	0 5 0½	—
Mexican Dollars	0 4 1½	—

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 23	Cuxhaven	Manila	Melvina Vidal	Kessal.
— 25	Liverpool	Do.	Olan	Long.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Olan Home	Long.
— 26	Do.	Shanghai	J. Stanton, jun.	John.
— 26	Do.	Manila	Elizabeth Dawson	Leach.
— 26	Do.	Colombo	Verma	Barry.
— 26	Off Norway	Batavia	Wildeman	Barst.
— 23	Falmouth	Rangoon	Colonist	Comar.
— 23	Newtown	Singapore	Argentine	Hunter.
— 23	New York	Shanghai	Argentine	Hunter.
— 23	Do.	Amoy	Falcon	—
— 23	Do.	Batavia	Rangoon	—
— 23	Brouwershaven	Do.	Gys. K. G. v. Hoog-	—
— 23	Off the Start	Ceylon	gendorp	Fabritius.
— 4	Havana	Manila	Clodion	Philips.
— 28	London	Colombo, &c.	Emigrante	Croft.
— 28	Do.	Colombo	Mary Scott	Wales.
— 28	Do.	Colombo	Johan Daniel	Wales.
— 28	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Kon. Ned. Yacht Club	Zwart.
— 28	Off Plymouth	Pasaroeng	Louise	de Boer.
— 29	Falmouth	Foo-chow-foo	Persa	Benecke.
— 29	Do.	Banjoewangie	Oscar I.	Larsen.
— 29	Do.	Manila	Annie Whitburn	Pease.
— 27	Texel	Pa-jan	Nova Zembla	Mannies.
— 30	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-foo	Langdale	Brown.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Syphide	Deubrugge.
Feb. 24	Callao	Manila	Aurora	Hill.
— 5	Valparaiso	Bankok	Pelto	Hillen.
Mar. 27	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Jason	Rusman.
— 30	Do.	Padang	Frederick Hendrick	Abrahamz.
— 30	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Wilhelmina and Clara	—
— 31	Liverpool	Singapore	Hera	—
— 31	New York	Hong Kong	N. B. Palmer.	—
— 31	Do.	Do.	Cassiterides	—
— 29	Altona	Manila	Calhoun	Petersen.
— 30	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Jacob Helma	Swart.
Apr. 2	London	Yokohama	Anna Maria	Junter.
— 5	Liverpool	Manila	Theresa	Deucke.
Mar. 30	Off Plymouth	Pasaroeng	Jan	Cherpon.
— 31	Texel	Manila	White Swallow	Do.
— 21	New York	Manila	Helena	Prince.
Apr. 1	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Combuine	Kok.
— 5	Falmouth	Bankok	Luchow	Ulrich.
Mar. 12	Havana	Manila	Sabel	Decont.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Josita Alaira	Remedios.
— 24	New York	Foo-chow-foo	Bonnie Lassie	Liprille.
Apr. 4	Brouwershaven	Tyloet	Mare and Hillegond	Wolters.
— 4	Do.	Banjoewangie	Nyversheid	Schaap.
— 5	Off Plymouth	Java	Philip v. Marux	—
— 5	Falmouth	Batavia	Maria	Scott.
— 5	Texel	Banjoewangie	Senior	Bakker.

DEPARTURES.

Date	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 11	Rotterdam	Batavia	Marie	Bilthorst.
— 25	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Yacolda	D-nough.
— 25	Do.	Colombo	Jeddo	Gray.
— 26	Liverpool	Manila	Tigra	Muir.
— 26	Clyde	Singapore	Sparkler	—
— 27	London	Sunderland and Galle	Juanita	Atkinson.
— 27	Sunderland	Yokohama	Darkway	Cairns.
— 28	Plymouth	Colombo	Carausius	Bard.
— 27	Callao	Manila	Isabador	Williams.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Canilla	Jeffy.
— 27	Do.	Do.	Jessie Stanton	Coie.
— 24	Liverpool	Batavia and Sourabaya	Altgott	—
— 29	London	Shanghai	Glaciane	Furnhall.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Sea Sprite	Hatchell.
— 30	Grimsey	Hong Kong	China (s.s.)	Mulder.
Feb. 14	Callao	Manila	Da Maria Pia	Ferreira.
Mar. 31	London	Yokohama	Lammermur	Bel.
— 26	Newcastle	Batavia	Walteren	v.d. Borden.
— 30	Shields	Singapore	Ocean Hoog	—
Apr. 1	London	Cardiff and Shanghai	Louise and Harriet	Uhrbock.
Mar. 30	Liverpool	Shanghai	Patna	Jones.
— 30	Clyde	Hong Kong	Corea (s.s.)	—
— 25	Amsterdam	Batavia	Gaulet	Meyer.
Apr. 1	Cardiff	Shanghai	Hall	Markwell.
— 1	Sunderland	Singapore	Leontina	Christofferson.
— 5	London	Do.	Helen's Bank	Reid.
— 5	Do.	Shanghai	Lord Lyde	Withers.
— 5	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Vronica	Douglas.
— 1	Do.	Singapore	Smyrna	Delargy.
Feb. 2	Buenos Ayres	China	Garland	Behrens.
— 7	Do.	Batavia	Prince Mauritz	d'Hincourt.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Cliding	Mahy.
Apr. 2	Liverpool	Peking & Singapore	Simoon	Chevalier.
— 5	Sunderland	Galle	Nonpareil	Brice.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Gleam, Castleton, Maravi. For Shanghai: Queen of the Ocean, Prince Alfred. For Hong Kong and Canton: Avondhu, Esperanza, Cambalu, Mountain Ash. For Bankok: Radama. For Singapore and Penang: Rifle. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Colombo: Skimmer of the Waves, Avon. For Colombo, Cannanore, and Cebu: Star of Ceylon. For Ascension and Trincomalee: Wellington.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Sea Snake. For Hong Kong and Canton: Golden Sunset. For Singapore: Bintang (s.), Therese. For Manila: Olana. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cornelia.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Roslin Castle. For Batavia and Singapore: Buston Vale. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Colombo: Ione.

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Chinaman.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth. For Batavia and Hong Kong: Enoch Train. For Singapore: Panic.

SPOKEN.

DAYBREAK, Shields to Hong Kong, Dec. 20, 40 S., 58 E.

EDINBURGH CASTLE (ship), Clyde to Singapore, Dec. 26, 37 S., 77 E.

ALA (British ship), bound to Ceylon, Jan. 2, 40 S., 59 E.

LIBRA (Dutch barq.), for Japan, 25 S., 26 W.

ECHO, London to Colombo, Feb. 24, 3 N., 23 W.

MINERVA, Port Providence to Shanghai, Feb. 24, 3 N., 23 W.

OCEAN BRIDE, Singapore to St. Michael's (?), Jan. 27, 23 S., 55 E.

ELIZA LAING (barq.), Colombo to London, Feb. 17, 23 S., 2 E.

OCEANICA (ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, Feb. 18, 21 S.

FLOATING LIGHT (ship), Manila to Liverpool, Feb. 19, 20 S., 1 W.

DON QUIXOTE (barq.), Hong Kong to Bordeaux, Feb. 22, 14 S., 8 W.

HERRY PUDDENSEY, for Singapore, Jan. 26, 28 S., 23 W.

KIRKLAND, Canton to London, March 4, 15 S., 5 W.

WILLEM (Dutch barq.), Rotterdam to Macassar, Jan. 26, 25 S., 25 W.

KOOPHANDEL (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 29, 22 S., 28 W.

EOLUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 27, 29 S., 27 W.

MARIA MAGDALENA, Rotterdam to Batavia, March 1, 9 N., 25 W.

DIAMOND (barq.), Harwich to Hong Kong, March 1, 9 N., 25 W.

EVEREST, Liverpool to China, March 21, 38 N., 16 W.

MARY AND HILLEGONDA (D. b.), Bat. to Rotm., March 23, 43 N., 17 W.

WHITE EAGLE, Foo-chow-foo to New York, Feb. 23, 2 S., 2 W.

ERNEST AND MARIA, Trieste to Hong Kong, March 3, 5 N., 26 W.

BERNARD AND AGNES, Batavia to Amsterdam, March 4, 6 N., 27 W.

CITY OF ABERDEEN, Dundee to Hong Kong, Feb. 2, 40 S., 10 E.

GLENCOE, Clyde to Shanghai, Feb. 25, 1 N., 25 W.

KONING WILLEM III., Rotterdam to Macassar, Jan. 26, 25 S., 25 W.

AFRIQUE (Fr. barq.), Dunkirk to China, Jan. 6, near Cape de Verds.

NICOLINA (Ham. ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, March 21, 32 N., 38 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The increased ease in the money market, together with a fair prospect of a still further reduction in the rate of discount at no distant date, has imparted a firmer tone throughout the export market than has been evinced during the present year. Freight rates are now more freely offering, and rates show an upward tendency. Rates for coal to Galle are firm, and all available tonnage offering for that port is quickly taken up.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meat. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meat. To Amoy and Foo-chow-foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meat. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meat. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meat. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £31 and £1. 10s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 15s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £22 10s. For Singapore: £25 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £26 and £1. 2s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 350 tons naval stores, and 82 small spars, from the river Thames to Hong Kong, have ordered the Cambalu to be surveyed for that purpose.

The P. and O. Company have contracted for the delivery of 6,600 tons of coal at Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Carausius (barq.), of Hartlepool, from Shields, for Colombo, got on shore on the north part of the Goodwin Sands, March 23, but was assisted off by a Trinity steam vessel, and proceeded. She afterwards put into Plymouth to examine her bottom, and has since sailed.

The Bravo, Nordstrom, from Batavia for Amsterdam, arrived off Dover March 27, with loss of mainyard, canvas, and other damage, and was towed in the next day.

The Charlotte, of Derby, Longmead, from Schiedam for the Amoor, put into Falmouth, March 27, leaky, and with cargo shifted. She has since been surveyed, and commenced landing her cargo.

The Kaap Hoorn, Dik, from Batavia, which arrived off Dungeness, March 16, and sailed for Holland, put back to Dungeness Roads, March 22, from the Noord Hinder Light ship, with loss of sails. On the 29th she went on shore near New Sluice, Rotterdam, but got off without apparent damage.

The Columbine, Kok, from Batavia for Rotterdam, had to put back to the Downs, from Brouwershaven, March 29, with loss of two anchors and chain, and was supplied with others.

The Jan Hendrik, Lelyvelt, from Banjoewangie for Amsterdam, which put into Simon's Bay 30th Jan., leaky, has been repaired there. On the 23rd Feb. she reloaded the discharged portion of her cargo, with the exception of 422 bales of coffee and 75 serons of sugar, which, being damaged, would be sold.

The following notice has been posted at Lloyds:—The Claramont, McIntosh, which sailed from Shanghai 5th Sept. for London, arrived at Ascension 6th Dec., and sailed thence on the 8th, has not since been heard of.

The Jacoba Helena, Swart, from Java, which arrived at Brouwershaven, March 30, had encountered bad weather in the North Sea on the 26th and 27th March, had grounded on the Flemish bar, and received some damage to her after-deck.

BUENOS AYRES, Feb. 11.—The Geelong, Ferrier, hence to Batavia, which vessel was reported on the 11th Jan. as aground here, has been condemned, and was sold on the 30th Jan.

The Wildeman, Driest, which arrived at Texel 1st April, from Batavia, reports having encountered much bad weather, during which she sustained considerable damage to her sails, channels, and stanchions, and lost an anchor and chain.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At St. Helena.—Feb. 20, from Batavia, Jacob Roggeveen, Marken, and sailed 21 for Amsterdam; 21, from Banjoewangie, Azia, Molenaar, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Colombo, John Brewster, Lelean, and sailed 24 for London; 22, from Banjoewangie, Telanak, Popken, and sailed 23 for Amsterdam; from Amoy, Theodor and Julie, Lorenzen, and sailed for New York; from Hong Kong, Conrad Heinrich, Backmann,

and sailed for Falmouth; from Batavia, Oceanus, Dirksen, and sailed 23 for Rotterdam; from Zebu, North, Brown, and sailed 23 for Liverpool; 26, from Macao, Guadalupe, Munos, and sailed 28 for Havana; 27, from Pasaroang, Henrietta, Gertruida, Collin, and sailed March 1 for Amsterdam.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 12, from Colombo, Wynaud, Jones, and sailed 18 for London; 21, from Macao, David, Roberts, for Havana; 19, Ymuiden, Melenberg, sailed for Batavia.

At ALGOA BAY.—Feb. 10, Oleander, Taylor, sailed for Colombo.

At MAURITIUS.—Feb. 25, Alphonse Nicolas Cezard, Bouron, sailed for Singapore.

At PLYMOUTH.—April 7, The Corea (s.), Russell, from Dumbarton, for Hong Kong, has put in here, having in tow the Wigtonshire (barque), of North Shields, derelict: no news of crew.

LOADING.—At the Chinchas, for China, Cote d'Or, Captain Monnier

THE AGRA AND MASTERMAN'S BANK

(Limited).
(Established in 1833.)
Incorporated by Royal Charter.
Paid-up Capital, £1,300,000 (one million and a-half sterling).
Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).
In 50,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.
Number of Shareholders, 908.
Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.
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Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.
LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.
ASSISTANT MANAGER.
T. F. Robinson, Esq.
INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.
AUDITORS.
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.
SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Upton, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.
EDINBURGH BRANCH.
17, St. Andrew-square.

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Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-pare.
Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Muir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Shirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq.

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy, and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

Scinde Railway (Indus Steam Flotilla, Punjab and Delhi Railways) Company.

AT THE TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above COMPANY, held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on WEDNESDAY, the 29th March, 1865,
W. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman of the Company, presiding.

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—
1. That this meeting receive and adopt the report and accounts of the Directors.

2. That Sir T. Herbert Maddock be re-elected a Director of this Company.

3. That J. Edmund Anderson, Esq., be re-elected a Director of this Company.

4. That Edward Thornton, Esq., C.B., be re-elected Auditor of this Company.

5. That William Mackinnon, Esq., be appointed an Auditor of the Company in place of George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., resigned.

6. That the cordial thanks of this meeting are tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his courteous conduct in the Chair this day.

W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.
S. H. R. PARRY, Acting-Secretary.
Gresham House, Old Broad-street, London,
March 29, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
Paid-up Capital, £300,000.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggan and Co.).
John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).
Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).
William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co., Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.
The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Stuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghrie, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).
ACTING-MANAGER.—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.
The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.
The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.
The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.
Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.
Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.
Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.
The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)
Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.
J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caisson Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

FOR FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES.
8, Finch-lane London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

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Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Yokohama—Messrs. De Coningh and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.
Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama. Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius. Madras. Galle. Hankow.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE BANK of HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE of CALL of £5 per Share on 20,000 New Shares Third issue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 20,000 New Shares in this Company, PAYABLE on the 12th day of April, 1865, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.
Interest at 10 per cent. per annum will be charged on all calls not paid on the above date.
By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

No. 1, Bank-buildings, March 13, 1865.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS FOR THE

PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WESTER and A. J. WESTERWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KIANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguished by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.

JACKSON & PAINE

(FOURTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)

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IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.

THE celebrity which TUCKER AND SON'S LAMPS have acquired in the East for burning steadily under the Punkah or in side draughts, and brilliantly with any of the coarse native oils, renders enquiry unnecessary; but having been enabled, by increased facilities of manufacture, very considerably to reduce the prices of the above favourite (but hitherto expensive) description of their lamps, T. and Son beg to notify the fact to the Eastern public.

They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jasper, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (black slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It requires simply dusting, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

After ten years' constant use and handling, these lamps are none the worse for wear.

Malachite (green), Serpentine (brown), or Lapis Lazuli (blue), are most recommended.

Table Lamp complete, with engraved glasses, as sketch, 72s.

A Plain Lamp, without the Corinthian capital, 50s. complete.

Either pattern, with plain frosted glasses, 7s. 6d. each less.

*. * The above Lamps are supplied to burn Petroleum or Rock Oil also.

Orders can be sent through any merchant or Agent, or, if accompanied by a remittance, direct to

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SUPERFINE VIOLET POWDER.

EAU DE TOILETTE, STRAWBERRY
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DE LAVANDE AMBREE PER-
FUMED OILS, &c.A LA CORBEILLE DE
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CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to 'the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume. JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap. JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Mocline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodermic or Dentists' Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

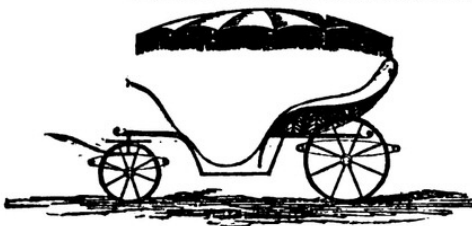
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